This is a digital copy of a book that was preserved for generations on library shelves before it was carefully scanned by Google as part of a project to make the world's books discoverable online.

It has survived long enough for the copyright to expire and the book to enter the public domain. A public domain book is one that was never subject to copyright or whose legal copyright term has expired. Whether a book is in the public domain may vary country to country. Public domain books are our gateways to the past, representing a wealth of history, culture and knowledge that's often difficult to discover.

Marks, notations and other marginalia present in the original volume will appear in this file - a reminder of this book's long journey from the publisher to a library and finally to you.

Usage guidelines

Google is proud to partner with libraries to digitize public domain materials and make them widely accessible. Public domain books belong to the public and we are merely their custodians. Nevertheless, this work is expensive, so in order to keep providing this resource, we have taken steps to prevent abuse by commercial parties, including placing technical restrictions on automated querying.

We also ask that you:

+ *Make non-commercial use of the files* We designed Google Book Search for use by individuals, and we request that you use these files for personal, non-commercial purposes.

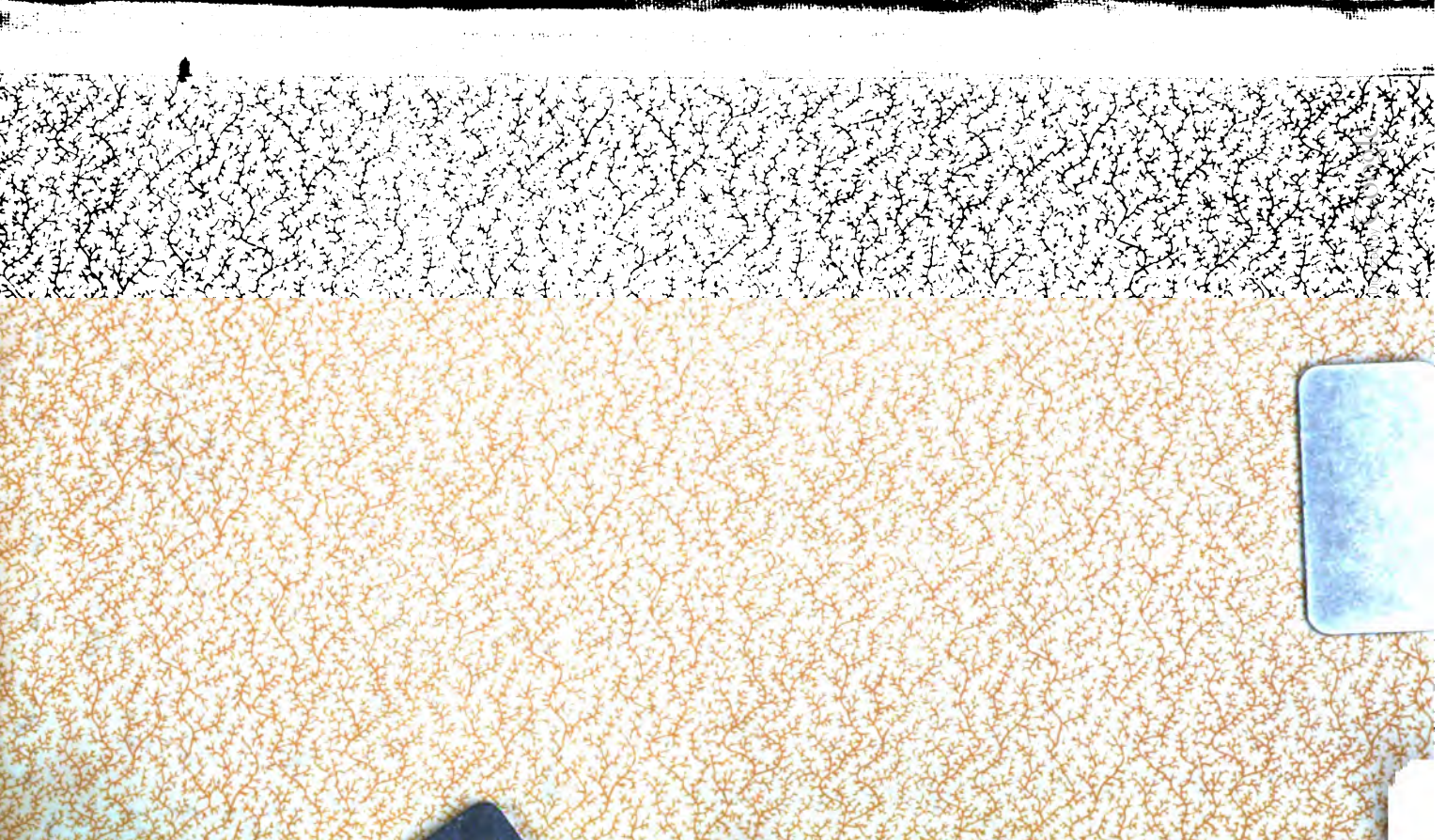
+ *Refrain from automated querying* Do not send automated queries of any sort to Google's system: If you are conducting research on machine translation, optical character recognition or other areas where access to a large amount of text is helpful, please contact us. We encourage the use of public domain materials for these purposes and may be able to help.

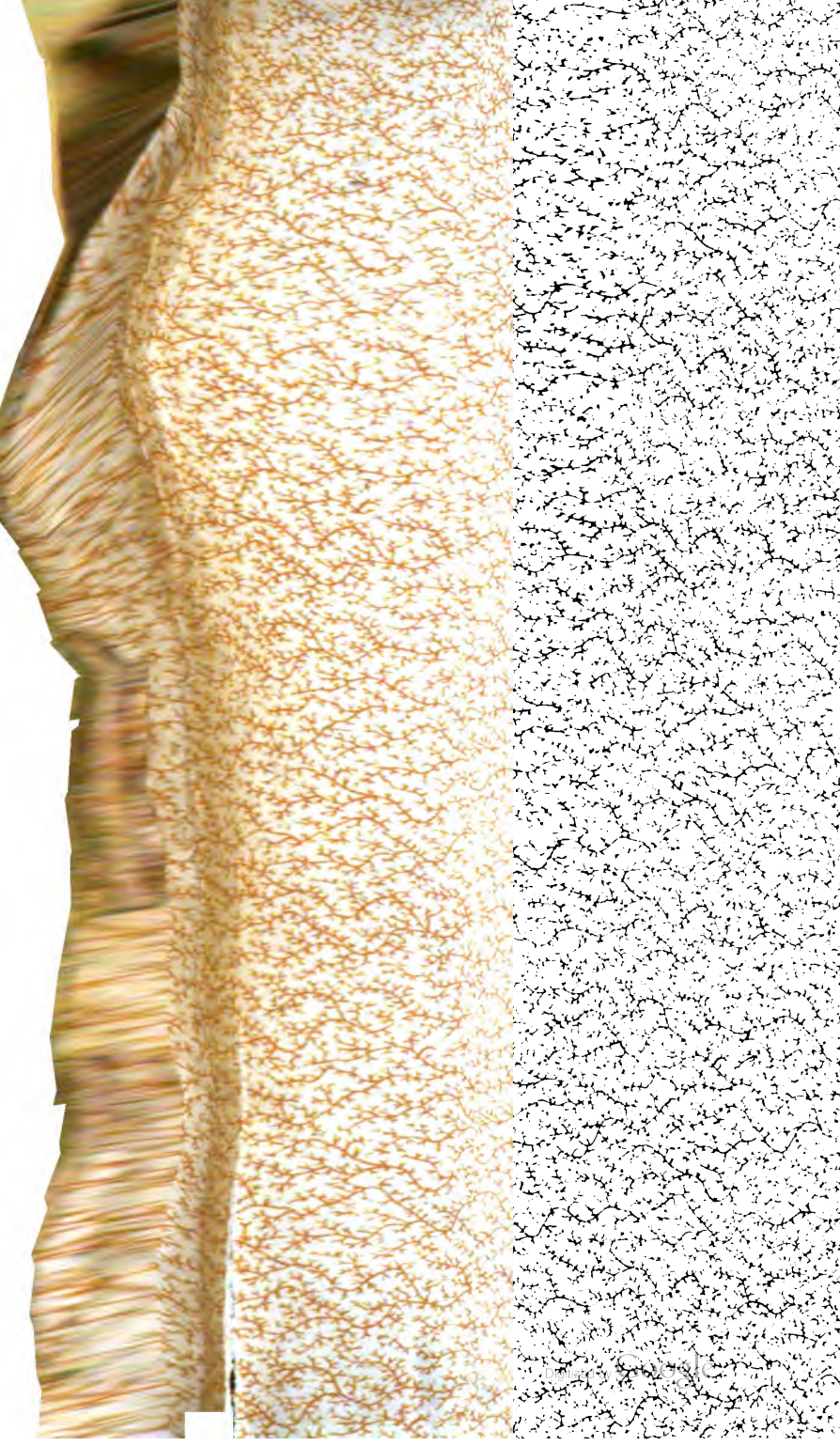
+ *Maintain attribution* The Google "watermark" you see on each file is essential for informing people about this project and helping them find additional materials through Google Book Search. Please do not remove it.

+ *Keep it legal* Whatever your use, remember that you are responsible for ensuring that what you are doing is legal. Do not assume that just because we believe a book is in the public domain for users in the United States, that the work is also in the public domain for users in other countries. Whether a book is still in copyright varies from country to country, and we can't offer guidance on whether any specific use of any specific book is allowed. Please do not assume that a book's appearance in Google Book Search means it can be used in any manner anywhere in the world. Copyright infringement liability can be quite severe.

About Google Book Search

Google's mission is to organize the world's information and to make it universally accessible and useful. Google Book Search helps readers discover the world's books while helping authors and publishers reach new audiences. You can search through the full text of this book on the web at `http://books.google.com/`





Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

THE

CRITICAL REVIEW;

OR,

ANNALS OF LITERATURE.

VOL. XXXIV.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

THE

CRITICAL REVIEW;

OR,

Annals of Literature;

EXTENDED & IMPROVED.

BY

A SOCIETY OF GENTLEMEN.

PUBLIC LIBRARY

A NEW ARRANGEMENT.

VOL. XXXIV.

PUBLIC LIBRARY NEW-YORK.

———NOTHING EXTENUATE,
NOR SET DOWN AUGHT IN MALICE. *SHAKSPEARE.*

QUALIS AB INCEPTO. *HORACE.*

LONDON:

PRINTED BY AND FOR S. HAMILTON,
FALCON-COURT, FLEET-STREET.

1802.

Digitized by Google

NEW YORK
PUBLIC
LIBRARY

Digitized by Google

THE

CRITICAL REVIEW.

JANUARY, 1802.

ART. I.—*Hosea. Translated from the Hebrew; with Notes, explanatory and critical. By Samuel Lord Bishop of Rochester.* 8vo. 1*l.* 1*s.* Robson. 1801.

THE right reverend prelate perseveres in his elucidation of Hebrew literature; and the work before us is made the ground of a dedication to the king, from which we shall extract the following extraordinary paragraph.

'If the execution of the work might be supposed to be at all answerable to the dignity and moment of the sacred argument; and, as far as may be attainable in a translation, to the force and sublimity of the style in the original; the present might seem not too mean to be brought before a monarch, who has lived a bright example of piety, in times when piety has been generally laughed to scorn; and will be recorded in the truth-telling page of history, as the patron of the sciences and the arts, and, under God, the powerful protector of the rights of civil government and of the Christian church (institutions in their origin equally divine), in an age when a general spirit of anarchy and atheism threatened to re-barbarise the life of fallen man, by the subversion of all social order, by obliterating the natural distinctions of right and wrong, by the studied mis-use and perversion of all learning and philosophy, and by the total extinction of all religion.' P. iii.

St. Jerome pleaded in extenuation of his defective style, that, instead of studying the periods of Demosthenes or Cicero, he was immersed in researches which were a fatal bar to the embellishments possessed by pagan orators; and it should seem, from the paragraph we have now selected, that his lordship was impressed with a similar conception. Like a Hebrew prophet, he appears carried away by the rapidity of his ideas. He begins with a conviction of the importance of the work before him: he next, and very naturally, conceives it entitled to royal favour: the original subject is now completely superseded by a recollection of the amiable qualities of the sovereign; and these possess his mind till the French revolution unluckily comes across him; when, forgetting he was writing a dedication, he rushes forward into a philippic.

Digitized by Google

In the course of the work we are indulged with many similar flights, of which some are expressed with a spirit of such superlative indignation as to become truly ludicrous, and at which it is with difficulty we refrain from smiling. The worshippers of the calves, set up by Jeroboam, are apostrophised for their folly by the prophets in the severest terms; but the nature of their idolatry seems to have remained a secret till revealed to the right reverend author before us, who thus offers us his instruction.

'These calves of Jeroboam's, by the way, seem to have been mutilated imitations of the cherubic emblems. Thus they were very significant symbols of a religion founded on misbelief, and upon the self-conceit of natural reason, discarding revelation, and, by its boasted powers, forming erroneous notions of the Godhead.

'The cherubim of the temple, and the calves of Dan and Bethel, were both hieroglyphical figures;—the one of God's institution; the other of man's, in direct contravention of the second commandment. The cherub was a compound figure; the calf single. Jeroboam, therefore, and his subjects were unitarians. And when his descendants added to the idolatry of the calves the worship of Baal, they became materialists; for the most ancient pagan idolatry was neither more nor less than an allegorised materialism. The deification of dead men was the corruption of later periods of idolatry, when idolaters had forgotten the meaning of their original symbols and their original rites. It was not therefore without reason that the ancient fathers considered the nation of the ten tribes as a general type of heresy.' P. ix.

His lordship seems to have forgotten that the calf moulded by Aaron was anterior to the cherubs of the temple, and that the sin of Jeroboam was similar to that of the Israëlites in the desert; viz. an attempt to represent the Godhead under a visible form, and the degrading adoration of a creature in place of the creator. 'These are thy gods!' said Aaron to the house of Israël; an exclamation literally repeated by Jeroboam when he pointed to his abominable devices. Hence it is most probable that they rejected entirely the idea of the unity of God, and were filled with the absurd and degrading superstitions of Egypt. To us the worship of the calves appears idolatry in the worst sense of the term: as such, indeed, it appeared to Moses; and the divine indignation against it was expressed in the most pointed manner. But the bishop doubts whether it were idolatry of any kind.

'The worship of Jeroboam's calves was the least part of their guilt; for it was not proper idolatry; it was a schismatical worship of the true God, under disallowed emblems, and by an usurping priesthood. But at length superstition made such a progress among them, that human sacrifices were made an essential rite in the worship of the calves. And this was the finishing stroke, the last stage of their impiety; that they said, "Let the sacrificers of men kiss the calves." Let them consider themselves as the most acceptable worshippers

Digitized by Google

who approach the image with human blood. "Kiss the calves;" *i. e.* worship the calves. Among the ancient idolaters, to kiss the idol was an act of the most solemn adoration. Thus we read in Holy Writ of "all the knees which have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth which hath not kissed him." Tully mentions a brazen statue of Hercules at Agrigentum, in which the workmanship of the mouth was sensibly worn by the frequent kisses of the worshippers. And in allusion to this rite, the holy psalmist, calling upon the apostate faction to avert the wrath of the incarnate God, by full acknowledgement of his divinity, bids them "kiss the son;" *i. e.* worship him.' P. 43.

The word *hell* is much misunderstood by those who generally use it; and the interpretation of its real meaning gives the author a good opportunity of lashing the Jacobins. Their folly assuredly deserves the severest reprehension; but it seems useless to attempt preserving their memory in a work like the present.

'Of this place we know little; except that to those who die in the Lord it is a place of comfort and rest;—not a Jacobinical paradise of eternal sleep and senselessness, but a place of happy rest and tranquil hope. In the prophetic imagery it is often mentioned, with allusion to the popular notions, as a dark cave deep in the bowels of the earth.' P. 46.

From the many extraordinary conceits advanced in this work, we cannot avoid amusing our readers with one which nevertheless appears to be a little out of place, and to be rather an attempt of a commentator of the dark ages than a conjecture of a modern critic of no mean degree of Biblical celebrity. In the Old Testament we find repeated mention of Jehova, Jehovah Elohim, and Malak Jehova; in all which expressions Jehova is the appropriate name of the supreme Being. Jehova Elohim is his name, in conjunction with his relationship to his people: Jehova is God; and in some places is expressed by the term *God of Gods*: and Malak Jehova is simply a messenger of Jehova. But our learned prelate will not allow this latter translation to be correct. 'It is not,' says he, 'a messenger of Jehova, but Jehova *angel*; and *Jehova* and *angel* are two nouns-substantive in apposition, both speaking of the same person—the one by the appropriate name of the essence, the other by a title of office.' Now if *malak* be allowed to be a term of office, we must inquire what office it implies: and the uniform meaning in the Scriptures leads us to form only one notion of it; to wit, that of a conveyer of messages. *Malak*, *angelus*, or *angel*, are indeed perfectly synonymous, and equally import this idea of a messenger or conveyer of messages. If then the Jehova of the Old Testament be degraded into a messenger, we must next in-

Digitized by Google

quire by whom he was employed, and what the title and authority of his employer. At the same time we would request our learned author's attention to the thirty-third chapter of Exodus, where the distinction between Jehova and malak is too evident to be mistaken by any one. On the act of idolatry of the Israëlites towards the golden calf, Jehova, in his anger, refuses to show them farther marks of his peculiar favour; yet, in remembrance of his covenant with their fathers, he promises to send with them a *malak—a messenger*. The *malak* may be either an inhabitant of earth, or an inhabitant of heaven: but Jehova is never thus represented in Scripture, nor is it possible that he could be so represented, by the term *malak*, as the office hereby implied is incompatible with the supreme dignity of him who is God of Gods, and has no superior. Besides, if *malak* could be thus a noun-substantive in apposition, we would humbly submit to the writer's consideration, whether the demonstrative article were not necessary, according to the Hebrew idiom; in consequence of which, instead of *malak*, it should have been written *hamalak*.

We can as little subscribe to another remark on the name Jehovah; that this term—

> belonging to the three persons indiscriminately, as simply descriptive of the essence, the compound *Jehovah-Sabaoth* belongs properly to the second person, being his appropriate demiurgic title; describing not merely the Lord of such armies as military leaders bring into the field, but the unmade, self-existent maker and sustainer of the whole array and order of the universe. P. 226.

In what manner this well-known demiurgic title can be applied with more appropriation to the second person than to the third, we are uninformed by any Scripture proof.

But, if the author's reins be in this way sometimes let loose to fancy, we cannot but applaud the vigor with which the conjectural mode of interpreting the Scriptures is resisted in this translation. There are certainly several very difficult passages in Hosea: yet to relinquish the received text upon conjecture alone is a very dangerous enterprise, and should certainly never be resorted to till the assistance derivable from the Masoretic punctuation and the different versions has entirely failed: and even then the conjectural reading should be pointed out to the multitude as simple hypothesis. A list of the supposed emendations of the text by archbishop Newcome, which are rejected by our author, is given in the preface; and in most places we prefer the text adopted by the latter, which is that of Vander Hooght, in 8vo. 1705.—a text he only varies in nineteen places, in all which he has the authority of other printed texts, versions, or manuscripts, to support him. On the authority also of versions, we meet with some excellent remarks; and

Digitized by Google

the great degree of credit attached to the Septuagint is much weakened by a very just observation which too often escapes the attention of the learned.

'With respect to the Greek version of the LXX in particular, it may reasonably be made a doubt, whether the MSS from which it was made, were they now extant, would be entitled to the same degree of credit as our modern Hebrew text, notwithstanding their comparatively high antiquity. There is certainly much reason to believe that, after the destruction of the temple by Nebuchadnezzar, perhaps from a somewhat earlier period, the Hebrew text was in a much worse state of corruption, in the copies which were in private hands, than it has ever been since the revision of the sacred books by Ezra. These inaccurate copies would be multiplied during the whole period of the captivity, and widely scattered in Assyria, Persia, and Egypt; in short, through all the regions of the dispersion. The text, as revised by Ezra, was certainly of much higher credit than any of these copies, notwithstanding their greater antiquity. His edition succeeded, as it were, to the prerogatives of an autograph,—the autographs of the inspired writers themselves being totally lost,—and was henceforward to be considered as the only source of authentic texts: insomuch, that the comparative merit of any text now extant will depend upon the probable degree of its approximation to, or distance from, the Esdrine edition. Now, if the translation of the LXX was made from some of those old MSS which the dispersed Jews had carried into Egypt, or from any other of those unauthenticated copies,—which is the prevailing tradition among the Jews, and is very probable, at least it cannot be confuted,—it will be likely that the faultiest MS now extant differs less from the genuine Esdrine text than those more ancient, which the version of the LXX represents.' p. xxxvi.

If this be the real character of the Septuagint in its original form, what must be the degree of reliance upon it now that it appears with all the confusion introduced into it from the well-meant labours of Origen, and is in fact so entangled with other versions, that it is a Herculean labour to free it from its impurities?

Hosea, as we have already confessed, in common with the other Jewish prophets, has his difficulties; but, perhaps, in none are the main scope and tenor of the prophecy more easily discerned. The prophet is intent on one object—the transgression of the sons of Israël, its consequences, and their final recovery. The situation of the ten tribes engrosses the chief part of his attention; but the fate of Judah is incidentally touched upon, and its comparatively inferior guilt prior to its dispersion. The relation of God to his people is depicted under the image of the love of a husband to his wife; and hence the apostasy of the latter is shadowed under the strong terms of fornication and adultery. To the supposed refinement of modern days such language may appear very gross, and scarcely justifiable; but

Digitized by Google

too often, it is to be feared, this will arise from a secret reluctance to admit the grievous enormity of such transgressions: the abominable sacrifices of the offenders, their detestable absurdity in the worship of images, cannot be painted in too odious figures; and the history of the Christian church is a proof that language too energetic could not possibly be used; as the fate of the Israëlites, and the expostulations of the prophets, have not prevented innumerable bodies of Christians from falling into similar delusions—from deserting the true God, and surrendering themselves to her who is in Scripture described as the mysterious Babylon, the mother of whoredom and abominations of the earth.

To make a deeper impression on the Ephraïmites, Hosea is ordered to marry a woman of loose and disorderly life, a just image of themselves for many generations. Of her he has three children, to whom significant names are given. The first is Jezraël, which is interpreted by our author *a seed of God*, and is supposed to delineate the true worshippers of the divinity, who had been persecuted by the house of Jehu. To this meaning we can by no means accede; for it does not appear that the house of Jehu were, as the author would represent them to be, persecutors of the true worshippers; and in the instance of the affectionate address of Joash to Elisha on his death-bed, we have sufficient grounds for a contrary persuasion. The interpretation given by the prophet leads indeed to a very different meaning. The child Jezraël was a sign to the nation, to revive the memory of the blood shed by Jehu in Jezraël, and the promise of God that his family should sit on the throne to the fourth generation. History informs us that this prophecy was fulfilled, and, at the time the child was born, namely, in the reign of Jeroboam, it was foretold that in a few years more the house of Jehu should be destroyed. Yet it is said, why should God visit the blood of Jezraël upon Jehu, since the act of Jehu was declared to be agreeable to God? But it is to be recollected, that the whole house of Jehu plunged into the iniquities for which that of their predecessors had been extirpated. Hence the divine retribution on Jehu's family was just; and history assures us, to speak in common language, that Ahab's family was avenged, for that the house of Jehu perished by a similar conspiracy. The name of Jezraël, moreover, seems by no means to admit the interpretation of 'seed of God' from the remaining part of the prophecy, 'and I will abolish the kingdom of the house of Israël.' Thus the name of Jezraël was an important sign to the nation. Jehu's family was soon after extirpated; and from that period the symptoms of the abolition of their kingdom became evident, and their dispersion was ascertained to be as inevitable as the fate of the former family.

The birth and names of the two other children do not afford

Digitized by Google

any difficulty to commentators. The daughter represents the weak state of the ten tribes, from conspiracy, faction, and invasion, after the extirpation of Jehu's family; and the son is the figure of their total destruction as a kingdom and a people. This is the general scope of the following chapters, in which various incidents are enumerated, to heighten the picture, and show the depraved state of the ten tribes in the most striking colours; but they are not left a prey to despair; for sufficient encouragement is still afforded to the devout part of the nation to believe that their deliverance should be wrought in a most wonderful manner, and that they should again become the people of God.

This view of the subject is amply dilated in a very prolix preface, in which, however, we do not see any thing particularly striking, or that has not occurred to prior commentators. We agree entirely with the author in that part of his recommendation of his own version in which he observes 'that it ought not to supersede the use of the public translation in the service of the church.' The fact is, it may be well applied to, in conjunction with bishop Newcome's, to afford a completer idea of the original: in some cases it is superior to the vulgar version; but, as a whole, it is assuredly not so fit for public use. Accompanying the translation are a body of notes, explaining the sense of the version as it occurs; and at the end of the work are introduced a variety of critical remarks on the original and its translators. We shall give an instance or two of this mode of commenting upon the sacred prophet. Upon the birth of Lo-ruhamah it is observed, that, though compassion shall no longer be extended to the ten tribes, Judah shall be cherished with tenderness and preserved by a supernatural deliverance: on which our author makes the following remark:

'These expressions are too magnificent to be understood of any thing but the final rescue of the Jews from the power of Antichrist in the latter ages, by the incarnate God destroying the enemy with the brightness of his coming; of which the destruction of Sennacherib's army in the days of Hezekiah might be a type, but it was nothing more. It may seem, perhaps, that the prophecy points at some deliverance peculiar to the house of Judah, in which the ten tribes will have no share; such as the overthrow of Sennacherib actually was; whereas the destruction of Antichrist will be an universal blessing. But, in the different treatment of the house of Judah and the house of Israel, we see the prophecy hitherto remarkably verified. After the excision of the kingdom of the ten tribes, Judah, though occasionally visited with severe judgements, continued however to be cherished with God's love, till they rejected one Lord. Then Judah became Loammi; but still continues to be visibly an object of God's love, preserved as a distinct race for gracious purposes of mercy. Perhaps in the last ages the converts of the house of Judah will be the principal objects of Antichrist's malice. Their deliverance may be first wrought; and through them

Digitized by Google

the blessing may be extended to their brethren of the ten tribes, and ultimately to the whole world. This order of things the subsequent prophecy seems to point out.' P. 3.

Now we shall observe upon this comment, that the salvation alluded to refers only to the house of Judah, that it takes place when the ten tribes are in the desolate state represented by the term Lo-ruhamah; and, consequently, there is no time to which it can be so properly referred as to the signal deliverance of Judah from the invasion of the all-powerful arms of Sennacherib. The idea of a farther deliverance of Judah, independently of that of the ten tribes, is altogether conjectural; and the introduction of Antichrist, and the converts of the ten tribes of Judah, and the incarnate God to destroy their enemies, seems to have no foundation whatsoever in the text; for whenever the day of the restoration of the Jews may arrive, it is said 'that both the children of Judah shall be collected, and the children of Israel shall be united, and they shall appoint themselves one head, and come up from the earth.' Let us not be wise above what is written, nor admit specious conjectures in our comments, beyond what we would allow in the received text.

In the eleventh chapter, twelfth verse, a proof is discovered of the Trinity not entirely unknown to some commentators, but long rejected by our public translation as well as by the great body of interpreters. The term in our common version rendered 'the saints' is by our author transmuted into 'the holy ones;' on which we meet with the following note:

'The word may signify either the constancy of Judah's fidelity to the "Holy Ones;" or the firmness of the support, which he shall receive from them. "The Holy Ones," the Holy Trinity. By the use of this plural word the prophecy clearly points to the conversion of the Jewish people to the Christian faith.' P. 40.

We shall simply observe, that the term 'the holy ones' is improper, for the original wants the article *the*. The LXX read the same words nearly as we have them, but in one place conjoin what with us occurs separately. The difficulty seems to be in the punctuation; and the question is, whether we should use עִם, *ngom*, *a people*, or עִמּ, *ngim*, *with*. The text has only עִמ, *ngm*, and we are not bound to the Masoretic punctuation. Referring our readers to the Septuagint and to Michaëlis's translation, we beg leave to suggest the following, in which we have derived assistance from both: 'Ephraïm hath compassed me about with treachery, and the house of Israël and Judah with deceit. Still the people of God shall have dominion, and *a holy nation* be established.' If it should be asserted that the stop must be placed at Israël, then the following must be predicted of Judah, who will have dominion, and be established

Digitized by Google

a holy nation. It seems however worthy of inquiry, whether the prophet did not here foresee the glory of Messiah's kingdom; and though both branches of the chosen people should be rejected, still in the divine counsels remained a remedy for their revolt, by the ingraft of the wild olive and the call of the Gentiles?

In the notes at the end the writer dilates with much self-satisfaction, and sometimes produces matter worthy of notice independently of criticism; yet there seems to be no reason for the introduction of several of these notes on a translation of Hosea any more than on many of the antecedent prophets; and a reader who engages in a perusal of one of Hosea ought to be previously instructed on such subjects. We mention this particularly in the present times, when paper is so expensive a commodity; and a translator should endeavour to compress his ideas into as small a compass as possible, instead of swelling them out, as in the instance before us, to a length far beyond what the case requires. Surely a long note upon the meaning of the word *prophet* was unnecessary; yet to several the explanation of the term *graven images* may be useful, and, as not generally understood, properly inserted.

'The graven image was not a thing wrought in metal by the tool of the workman we should now call an engraver; nor was the molten image, an image made of metal, or any other substance melted, and shaped in a mould. In fact, the graven image and the molten image are the same thing, under different names. The images of the ancient idolaters were first cut out of wood, by the carpenter, as is very evident from the prophet Isaiah. This figure of wood was overlaid with plates either of gold or silver, or, sometimes perhaps, of an inferior metal; and in this finished state it was called a graven image (*i. e.* a carved image), in reference to the inner solid figure of wood, and a molten (*i. e.* an overlaid, or covered) image, in reference to the outer metalline case or covering. And sometimes both epithets are applied to it at once. "I will cut off the graven and molten image." Again, "What profiteth the graven and molten image?" The English word "molten" conveys a notion of melting or fusion. But this is not the case with the Hebrew word for which it is given. The Hebrew נסך signifies, generally, to overspread, or cover all over, in whatever manner, according to the different subject, the overspreading or covering be effected; whether by pouring forth a substance in fusion, or by spreading a cloth over or before, or by hammering on metalline plates. It is on account of this metalline case that we find a founder employed to make a graven image; and that we read in Isaiah of a workman that "melteth a graven image:" and in another place we find the question, "Who hath molten a graven image?" In these two passages the words should be "overlayeth," and "overlaid." P. 134.

In the version itself we may point out some places where it is superior to that established by authority.—Chap. I. 6. In-

Digitized by Google

'But for this valuable piece of information we are indebted solely to the sacred writings. If we except the traces of their language, there do not appear to have remained in Greece any vestiges of its original inhabitants, within the reach of any authentic history. Even their principal names had become extinct. No Grecian writer has ever mentioned them with any certainty. Strabo has given the names of several of them, such as Dryopes, Caucones, Leleges, Aönes, Tembices, Hyantes, with some others: yet these are presented to us in a very questionable manner: "They seem not," says Dr. Stillingfleet, "to have been that ancient people, but rather some latter castlings of the Carians, who, as Thucydides tells us, did very often make inroads upon the quarters of Greece." Thus much is well authenticated, that there were nations called Leleges, Caucones, and Pelasgi in Asia Minor; and they are said by Homer to have assisted the Trojans against the Grecians,

'Και Λελεγες, και Καυκωνες, διοι τε Πελασγοι.

'But the more general, as well as the most ancient name, under which they are supposed to have passed, is that of Pelasgi. The Pelasgi were certainly very numerous, and formed colonies in all parts of Greece; and they are said by Strabo to have derived their very appellation from the circumstance of their being a wandering people*. The same writer has likewise informed us, that they were the most ancient race of men who established any dynasty in Hellas†. Pelasgia was one name for Peloponnesus‡.'

If this statement be correct, the first inconsistency that strikes us is, that the most ancient inhabitants of Hellas, the aborigines of the country, according to Herodotus, Dionysius, and Strabo, were not barbarians in the sense attached to this term in modern times, and meant to be so attached by our author. Of these aborigines, as enumerated by the above historians, the Pelasgi were by far the most considerable. But it is generally admitted by chronologists, and even assented to by Mr. Allwood himself, that the Pelasgi were descendents of Peleg. Peleg, however, was of the race of Shem; and consequently the aborigines of Greece were not of the family of Japhet, who is said, in Genesis X. 5, to have peopled 'the isles of the Gentiles.' We are disposed to allow as much authority to the sacred scriptures as Mr. Allwood; and, could we by any means discern that they tell us in this passage that the country of Hellas was first inhabited by this progeny, we would instantly give it our fullest assent: we do not contend that it was not; but we maintain, from the very brief and general assertion—'By these were the isles of the Gentiles divided in

'* Πελασγοι δια την πλανην. Strab. Geograph. lib. ix.'

'† Των περι την Ἑλλαδα δυναστευσαντων αρχαιοτατοι. Strab. Geogr. lib. vii.'

'‡ Πελοποννησου τρεις επωνυμιαι, Απια, Πελασγια, Αργος. Steph. Byzant.'

Digitized by Google

their lands, every one after his tongue, after their families in their nations'—no legitimate and historical inference can be drawn, that 'the isles of the Gentiles' imply the regions of Greece and Europe; that 'these were the territories allotted them;' and that 'for this valuable piece of information we are indebted solely to the sacred writings.' The aborigines of Greece, as far as we are able to trace them, were Pelasgians, and, if we admit the general etymology to be correct, descendents of Shem, and not of Javan. If, in reality, the account of Strabo be erroneous, or the Pelasgians were not descendents of Peleg; if the assertion of Mr. Allwood be true, that the verse in question identifies, and was meant to do so, the aborigines of Greece and the south of Europe, as of the family of Javan, we have then, according to the words of the sacred historian himself, a right to expect some memorial of their patriarchal names, since we are expressly told, that they '*divided their lands every one after his tongue, after their families in their nations.*' Now the sons of Japhet, by whom these lands were thus divided 'after their tongues, families, and nations,' were 'Elishah, and Tarshish, Kittim, and Dodanim *.' Have we then, either in Greece or on the Grecian coasts, any provincial appellations corresponding to such names? And if we have, will not our author, who often travels to immeasurable distances for his etymologies, greedily seise upon them to verify his opinion? It is a curious fact, that, within the very tract of country now alluded to, we have every name here specified, and almost without the change of a letter; for it furnishes us with (Ιαπετος) Iapetus, (Ιαονες) Jaones, Elis, Tarsus, Rhodes, Chithim, and Dodona: and this indeed is the principal proof with prior chronologists of the descent of the sons of Javan into Europe. But what says Mr. Allwood? 'I cannot grant,' observes he, 'any credit to the suppositions that the name of Elis in Peloponnesus was derived from Elisha; that the name of Japhet is preserved in Iapetus; or that of Javan in Ionia, Jaones, or Iones;' nor is he disposed to take any advantage of the succeeding resemblances, although he believes it possible that the descendents of Javan may have respectively *settled* in such of the above regions, whose names correspond with their own. As for the rest, Elis, Iapetus, Iones, we must take an immense journey backward through all Egypt, to Babylonia and the plains of Shinar, for their etymologies, and must at last derive them from the race, neither of Shem nor Japhet, but of Ham, the other son of Noah; because, forsooth, the hypothesis we are following is that of Mr. Bryant, and this gentleman has traced the Helladians to an Ammonian origin, as descendents of

* Gen. x. 4.

Digitized by Google

Chus the son of Ham. We believe, for the most part, that Mr. Bryant is correct; but we still see no reason for rejecting etymologies so nearly at hand, and engaging in so vast a journey to procure them from another quarter: we see no reason, admitting the sons of Javan to have first peopled the regions of Greece, why their own names might not have been derived from the same radicals of the primitive language of man which are employed by Mr. Bryant to elucidate the names, traditions, and abodes of the posterity of Ham or Cush; and, consequently, why they might not have given appellations to the different regions in which they settled, resolvable into those primitive elements, with far more facility than the latter are supposed to have done in a future migration.

Our author indeed seems to be involved in a labyrinth, intricate as that of Crete, and embarrassed amid the sources of Grecian population. Japhet must contribute towards it; for the sacred writings, he asserts, expressly tell us so. Shem must contribute in his turn; for the Pelasgians, the most powerful dynasty in these regions, were descended, we are informed, from Peleg, who was of the direct race of that patriarch: and Ham must contribute more largely than either of the rest, because the system adopted is completely that of Mr. Bryant; and this gentleman has attended his posterity, the Cushites or Cuscans, through all their migrations from Babylonia, in different directions, till they extended to these regions, and took possession of them by right of conquest. So that while the descendents of Shem were sufficient for the population of Morocco, Mesopotamia, and China; those of Ham for that of Babylonia, Æthiopia, and Arabia; and those of Japhet for that of all Europe, excepting Greece itself; it is necessary (for the present system at least) that all the sons of Noah should unite in furnishing a population for this diminutive mole-hill, and that Peleg, whose very name signifies *dispersion*, from פָּלַג, *to sever*, or *divide*—and in whose time (we are expressly told by the sacred scriptures) the earth was so divided, whence he acquired his name—that this patriarch, or his sons, should be the very point of *union*, to connect again, as it were into one family, the different branches of the posterity of Noah. It is indeed with extreme difficulty that our author introduces the descendents of Peleg into Greece in any way; and as he could not possibly relinquish the Ammonians, or posterity of Ham, for this purpose, since his whole system is founded upon such a supposition, he had far better have given up the former altogether, have conceived that there might have been another Pleg, Peleg, or Pelach, among the Ammonian race, the progenitor of the Pelasgi, and not have attempted to unite the hypothesis of Mr. Bryant with that of Grotius and Stillingfleet.

This however he has attempted, and the Pelasgi of Etruria are to be credited as the descendents of Peleg, in whose days

Digitized by Google

the earth was divided between the different families of mankind. There is some ingenuity we admit in his method; and perhaps Peleg may form a better radical for the term Pelasgi than πελαγος (*pelagus*) *the ocean*, or πελαργος (*pelargus*) *the stork*, a bird of passage, both of which derivations we remember having seen countenanced by several ancient critics, as descriptive of the wandering and maritime life of this active people:—but our concern is not with ingenuity, it is with historic data alone; and for this we are much mistaken if our readers do not look in vain.

'I have mentioned that, according *to the opinion* of many learned men, the Pelasgi are the descendants from Peleg: and there appears to be no argument of any great force to contradict this idea; only *it is probable*, from the extensive colonies which they planted in various parts, that there were many adherents from the other branches of the dispersed who were ranked under the same denomination. The sacred historian has informed us that the patriarch Heber had two sons, Peleg and Joktan; but it is remarkable, that while he has given us an ample account of the sons of Joktan, and likewise of the region in which they settled, he has transmitted no such particulars concerning Peleg: the number of his children is not mentioned; nor is any notice taken of the places in which they resided. We have only a direct lineal descent in one branch of his posterity from him to Abraham. But we are told that Peleg obtained this name, because "in his days the earth was divided;" and it appears that there was also a grievous schism in the primitive church, and a dreadful apostasy from true religion. From this circumstance *we may partly conclude* that the sons of Peleg were nearly concerned in this latter event; that they had apostatised from the religion of their ancestors, and joined themselves to the sons of Chus in Chaldæa and Babylonia; while the collateral branch of the same family in the line of Joktan had peaceably retired to their appointed place of settlement.

'Peleg was a person of much consequence; he was at least the founder of the nation of the Hebrews, in one branch of his posterity. He therefore became a valuable acquisition to the Cuthites when he espoused their cause; and was *probably* placed in some exalted station under Nimrod. *It is therefore reasonable to suppose*, that, upon the dispersion, he would be able to form a large party of those who had before been in subjection to him: and *he might have conducted* these westward to the regions of Italy and Greece.' p. 70.

Our author has stated in his preface, p. xvi., that 'he has endeavoured to establish every point by probability;' this indeed is not to establish much: but he adds, 'and by bringing a *great number of probabilities to bear* upon the same points, I hope it will appear that I have generally approached very near the truth.' Here then is a passage quite to the purpose—it is filled with *probabilities*, or such at least as our author imagines to be probabilities: but can any one, after an attentive perusal of the

Digitized by Google

entire passage, the whole series of *probabilities* advanced, say that he has attained the remotest shadow of a *truth* or *certainty* upon any one topic introduced? 'The *sacred historian*,' he tells us himself, '*has transmitted no such particulars concerning Peleg: the number of his children is not mentioned; nor is any notice taken of the places in which they resided.*' We are left then in total ignorance upon the subject; and one speculation must be just as probable as another; for the whole is equally conjecture. What one reason have we even *partly to conclude* that the sons of Peleg were *nearly* concerned in the primitive apostasy of the Cushites upon the plains of Shinar, and that 'they *joined* themselves to the sons of Chus in Chaldæa and Babylonia, while the collateral branch of the same family in the line of Joktan had *peaceably* retired to their appointed place of settlement?' What one reason have we to *assert, as a historic fact*, that 'Peleg was a person of much consequence—that he espoused the cause of the Cushites, and became a valuable acquisition to them?' What reason to think it *probable* that he was placed in some exalted station under Nimrod? Why is it *reasonable to suppose* that upon the dispersion he would be able to form a large party of those who had before been in subjection to him? and that 'he might have conducted these westward to the regions of Italy and Greece?' With such unfounded conjectures we might, perhaps, have been amused if we had met with them in Milton's Paradise Lost, or Gessner's Death of Abel; but in a grave and erudite volume, that pretends to give nothing less than historic facts or probabilities, and these established by the testimony of existing monuments, we confess we did not expect to have met with such visionary conceits, nor can we be either profited or entertained by them. Contemplating, however, these ingenious fancies in the light of a fable, we cannot but regard the whole of them, in direct opposition to our author, as highly *improbable*, and as widely inconsistent with the little that is communicated by the sacred scriptures. Allowing that Nimrod and Peleg were contemporaries, far from supposing that the latter *joined* himself to the former, and consented to become a dependent upon him, we have much more reason to believe, from his very name, which, as we have before observed, expressly signifies *division* or *dispersion*—a name given to him, as the sacred historian definitively tells us, from the very fact of the division of the earth in his day, and its partition to the different families of mankind—we say, we have much more reason to believe that this Peleg, or arch-migrator, first proposed and effected such partition; that he began the general dispersion, and led forth his own tribes into distant and uninhabited regions. The direct course he took we do not know; but we find Abraham, his fifth lineal descendent, born in the city of Ur of

Digitized by Google

the Chaldees *, which is intimated by the sacred writer to have been the family abode of his brethren and ancestors. The Ur here spoken of is generally supposed, by our best critics, to have been the same which is mentioned by Ammianus Marcellinus †, and by him placed between the Tigris and the city of Nisibis, at which city or citadel of Ur the emperor Jovianus Augustus rested so lately as at the commencement of the fourth century of the Christian æra, after he had concluded his treaty of peace with the Persians. Towards this region, in which we trace his posterity so shortly afterwards, it is highly probable, then, that Peleg directed his course upon the general division of the earth which occurred in his day: and if this be a fact, it is impossible he could have united himself to Nimrod, with whose territories we are expressly acquainted, which comprised 'Babel, and Erech, and Accad, and Calneh, in the land of Shinar ‡,' and which of course must have lain several hundred miles to the south-east of the city of Ur. Consequently, moreover, far from *partly concluding* that Peleg was '*nearly concerned* in the grievous schism of the primitive church,' and had apostatised together with the Ammonians in the land of Shinar, we must admit that it is more probable he had no concern whatever in this blasphemy, and was so remotely situated as to be ignorant of the fact itself.

There are many parts in the present volume, however, founded upon better evidence than conjecture; and in the latter portion of the ensuing section we accompany our author with far more satisfaction, and with many obligations for his profound researches and legitimate deductions. On the section we have now closed we have dwelt the longer, lest our readers should be unwarily led astray by the captivating plausibility of the general theory advanced, and thereby be rendered incapable of appreciating its real merit, and of severing the fanciful from the more solid. The section upon which we now enter commences with an examination 'how far an accurate knowledge of the import of terms may become subservient to the development of such passages in the ancient history of Greece as have never hitherto met with any satisfactory explanation.' The general analogy and import of terms in different languages may be fairly urged as a proof of the pre-existence of one primitive and universal vocabulary, and consequently of the origin of all mankind from one common race: and for this purpose, had it been necessary, the writer might have furnished us with far more examples than the nine here presented, and traced them through a far greater variety of tongues; but as we shall be necessarily called to a reconsideration of this subject in the fourth section, which is a re-

* Gen. xi. 28. † Lib. xxv. 26. ‡ Gen. x. 10.

Digitized by Google

capitulation of the point now discussed, we shall pass it by for the present.

Following the guidance of Mr. Bryant, our author, upon the dispersion of the Ammonians or Cushites, which immediately followed the destruction of their tower and the confusion of their language in the land of Shinar, conducts, as we have already observed, several large colonies of these idolaters towards Egypt, where, pursuing principally the fragments of Manetho, he supposes them to have conquered the Misraïm or aboriginal inhabitants, to have established a dynasty under the title of Royal Shepherds, to have introduced among the natives all their own idolatrous worship of the ark, the sun, and the serpent (an account of the origin and amalgamation of which has already been given in our former number), to have been finally overpowered by an insurrection of the Misraïm, and driven into the land of Cushen or Goshen; where, after having been long besieged in the city of Avaris (πολιν Αυαριν), they entered into a convention with the besieging army for the retention of this province alone; but whence, in a short time, they peaceably departed in different colonies, and under the different appellations of Erectheïdæ, Danaïdæ, Cecropians, and Cadmians, towards Phrygia and Greece, overpowering the nations of these various regions as they advanced, and still establishing among them their own idolatrous rites. Their exodus from Egypt he fixes at a period not long anterior to the vice-royalty of Joseph in that country, and the general famine which drove his brethren into his presence to purchase provisions for their families; and here it must be confessed that there is a wonderful accordance between the account given by Diodorus Siculus* and Manetho, and that of the sacred historian respecting this extraordinary event; which different statements our author has again made to bear with great *probability* upon the tradition of the dreadful famine in Lydia, narrated by Herodotus† to have raged for *several years* in the reign of Atys, as an additional proof of the truth of the general account, both as to the duration and universality of the dearth: 'And the seven years of dearth began to come, according as Joseph had said; and the dearth was in all lands; but in the land of Egypt there was bread‡.' But we shall suffer our author to speak for himself.

'In the second place,' says he, 'we are enabled very accurately to ascertain the scope of that passage of Diodorus, which informs us that this dearth prevailed κατα πασαν σχεδον την οικουμενην, ΠΛΗΝ ΑΙΓΥΠΤΟΥ, ΔΙΑ ΤΗΝ ΙΔΙΟΤΗΤΑ || ΤΗΣ ΧΩΡΑΣ, *every where throughout the*

* Vol. I. lib. i. p. 34. † Herod. lib. i. c. 94. ‡ Gen. xli. 54.

|| Ιδιοτης seems properly to imply some peculiarity or singular circumstance attending this region.

Digitized by Google

world, except in Egypt, which was protected by THE GENIUS OF THE COUNTRY *. These words are very remarkable; and convey a meaning, which could never have been investigated without a comparison with the sacred writings. I have observed in a former page, that the genius, who usually preserved this country from famine, was the Nile; and that the drought must have been great and universal indeed, which could afford no rain among the mountains of Abyssinia, and, consequently, no inundation to fertilise Lower Egypt †. We are now assured, beyond the possibility of doubt, that such a time of drought did really happen, and that it continued *seven years*. It was not the Nile therefore that preserved this, and other lands, during this period of distress: it was another Genius, whom the Egyptians long remembered under the significant appellation of ΨΟΝΤΟΜΠΑΝΗΧ‡ (Psontompanēch) "*the revealer of secrets*;" and whom Moses, varying the term to suit the dialect of the Hebrews, has styled צפנת פענח (Tsaphnathphaneh §), which is a word confessedly foreign to their language ‖. Hence it appears that the Sicilian historian has handed down the substance of an Egyptian tradition, which accords in a most wonderful degree with the evidence of the inspired penman. We learn from both, that there was once a dreadful famine over the whole world; and that Egypt was preserved from utter destruction, and was the means of saving other countries, through the instrumentality of some extraordinary person. This person is called THE GENIUS OF THE PLACE by the one, and Tsaphnathphaneh (the same as Psontompanēch) THE REVEALER OF SECRETS by the other; but he was no other than Joseph, who was raised up by God, and endued with an extraordinary degree of wisdom and fore-knowledge, for this very purpose. "*The dearth was in all lands; but in the land of Egypt there was bread* ¶." "*And all countries came into Egypt to Joseph to buy corn; because the famine was so sore in all lands* **."

'It remains to be inquired, in the last place, at what time these things were done. Joseph, it is said, in consequence of the commission he had received to lay up corn, "went out from the presence of Pharaoh, and *went throughout all the land of* Egypt ††;" and this passage is the more valuable, because it conducts us to two conclusions very important to the ancient history of that country; namely—that the whole of Egypt was at this time under the dominion of one sovereign; and that therefore the date in question must have been

---

'* Diodor. Sicul. lib. i. vol. i. pag. 34.'

'† Page 239, note *. If there were rain in any quarter, the Abyssinian mountains were never deprived of their seasons of wet: they generally had them, even when the lower regions in every direction were consumed by drought: and this is the reason why Egypt, in early times especially, was most justly considered as the granary of the east.'

‡ In the copy before us this word is written ΨΟΝΤΟΜΠΑΝΗΧ, but this is probably an error of the press.—REVI

'§ Genesis, chap. xli. ver. 45.'

'‖ There is a valuable dissertation upon the import of these words in Kircher. Prodrom. Coptic. pag. 124, &c.'

'¶ Genesis, chap. xli. ver. 54.'

'** Genesis, chap. xli. ver. 57.'

'†† Genesis, chap. xli. ver. 46.'

Digitized by Google

some time, but not long, after the expulsion of the Cuthite shepherds. The first of these inferences is further confirmed by the very language of Pharaoh on this occasion—" He said unto Joseph, I am Pharaoh; and without thee shall no man lift up his hand or foot *in all the land of Egypt* *:" which surely supposes, that this monarch had an absolute and undivided sovereignty over *the whole country*.

' We learn from Manetho, that the Cuthite shepherds were succeeded in Egypt by another race of shepherds: and he distinguishes them by the title of *Captives*†; under which we easily recognise the descendents of Jacob who were enslaved in Egypt. They were allotted the land of Goshen for their residence; and " it seems pretty certain," says Mr. Bryant, " from the tenor of Scripture, that they came into a vacant unoccupied district. And, as it was the best of the land, there is no accounting for its being unoccupied, but by the secession of the *Cuseans*, whose property it had lately been. Joseph, when he instructs his brethren what answer they were to give to Pharaoh, when he should inquire about their occupation, lays this injunction upon them: ' Ye shall say, Thy servants' trade hath been about cattle, from our youth even until now, both we and also our fathers: *that ye may dwell in the land of Goshen;* for *every shepherd is an abomination unto the Egyptians.*' From whence Le Clerc very justly collects, that this land must have been in possession of shepherds or herdsmen before. Qui enim colligere potuisset Josephus fratribus, arte editâ, eum tractum in colendum concessum iri, nisi, &c. The inference he makes is good, that there must have been shepherds in those parts before; otherwise Joseph could not have foreseen that, upon telling their occupation, this land would necessarily be given to his brethren ‡."

' Upon the whole, therefore, it appears that the time of this general dearth could not have been long after the Cuthites had been obliged to abandon the country; that is, in all probability, not many years after the Erechtheidæ had possessed themselves of Attica. And if there be any truth at all in that part of the list of Athenian monarchs, where Erechtheus is introduced, it will amply confirm the justice of the foregoing conclusion; for it was in the reign of this king that the famine took place. But the date assigned to this event is one thousand seven hundred and eight years before Christ; and perhaps the settlement of the Erechtheidæ at Athens might have been fifteen or twenty years earlier.' P. 286.

' * Genesis, chap. xli. ver. 44.'

' † Manetho, as quoted by Josephus, says that they kept possession of Egypt five hundred and eleven years. Joseph. contra Appion. lib. i. sec. 14. This writer, however, seems to have confounded the Israëlitish with the Arabian shepherds. He first mentions the reigns of the shepherd kings, whom he styles *Hycsos*, and afterwards introduces another race of shepherds, whom he erroneously calls the descendents of the former, and distinguishes by the name of *Captives*. The amount of the reigns of the shepherd kings is stated to be two hundred and fifty-nine years and ten months. This, however, was not the whole time of the residence of these shepherds in Egypt; it was only the time during which they were under a race of kings. I apprehend that the total period may be rated at two hundred and eighty years, or a little more.'

' ‡ Observations upon Ancient Egypt, page 159.'

Digitized by Google

There is certainly some undue latitude of interpretation here assumed in translating την ιδιοτητα *the Genius of the country*; and it betrays too much attachment to system to apply it, so translated, to the patriarch Joseph. We have also to observe that Manetho makes no mention of CUTHITE shepherds in any part of his fragments that are preserved to us by Josephus. He says precisely, 'In the reign of Timaüs, the Deity blasted us with his anger, and suddenly *an obscure race of men* (το γενος ασημοι) invaded us from the East, who, confiding in their courage, fixed themselves in our country, and seised it boldly without the risk of a battle (ῥαδιως και αμαχητι την χωραν ειλον)'... 'These people,' continues he, 'were called *Yksos* or *Uksos* (Ὑκσος), that is *shepherd-kings*; for *yk* or *uk* signifies a king in the sacred language, and *sos* a shepherd or shepherds in our vernacular tongue; and thus is the compound *yksos (uksos)* derived*.' Josephus, who gives us this information, tells us shortly afterwards that in another copy he found the term *uk* signifying not *royal*, but *captive*; and, consequently, *uksos* not *shepherd-kings*, but *captive-shepherds*. And we cannot avoid noticing therefore, even in this instance, a powerful propensity in our author to bend, perhaps unwarrantably, all the different significations of this term to his favorite hypothesis. If the *yksos* (or *uksos*) mean, in his view of the word, *shepherd-kings*, let him uniformly retain this interpretation; if, on the contrary, he prefer the translation of *captives* or *captive*-shepherds, let him as punctually adhere to this latter sense: but he has certainly no authority, either from Manetho or Josephus, to use the former meaning, when he wishes to accommodate it to his Cushite shepherds, who are nevertheless *probably* the conquerors of Egypt here referred to, and the latter meaning when he would have it express the Israëlites, who we know were *captives* in the land. We believe the former to be the more accurate interpretation; and we find the Chaldæan shepherds in Eusebius entitled (Ὑκκουσως) *Ukkousos*, perhaps *Uk-Chusus* †, a word of nearly similar letters, and obviously from the same origin as (ὑκσος) *uksos*, and to which he attaches the idea of royalty; a circumstance that will obviously tend to corroborate the opinion of Mr. Allwood, that although they are not expressed by name, Manetho, in his account of the conquerors of Egypt, referred to the Cushite shepherds, who were certainly *Uk-Chusæi* (royal shepherds), and of the same country.

To the same radical Mr. Bryant indeed, very ingeniously, attributes the Latin term *lux*, *light*. The sun, says he, was de-

* Joseph contra Appion. l. i.

† Εκαλειτο δε το συμπαν αυτων εθνος Ὑκκουσως τουτο δε εστι βασιλεις· ποιμενες το γαρ Ὑκ, καθ' ἱεραν γλωσσαν, βασιλεα σημαινει.' Præp. Evang. lib. x. c. 13.

Digitized by Google

nominated by the Babylonians *El-Uc* (God the Sun, the divine Sun), which the Greeks changed to (Λυκος) *Lukos*; whence the Latin *lux*. Had these gentlemen pursued the etymology into the Arabic and Persian languages, we think they would have found this common element exemplified more decisively still. In the Arabic the sky is denominated *Feluk*, i. e. *Ph'-el-uk* (the breath or effluence of the radiant God, or God the Sun); and in the plural, for *the skies*, it changes to (افلاك) *Efluk*, precisely similar to the Latin *effluxus*, *efflux*, or *fluency*—in the language of Lucretius, *liquidissimus æther*. Hence, among the the Persians, *chukan* (چوكان) means an *arch*, a *bow*; and in the following verse of Hafiz is applied to the eye-brow of his mistress, as though it were beautiful as the arch of heaven:

اي كم بر مم كشي از عنبر سارا چوكان

O thou whose forehead is adorned with an arched brow of pure amber!

Hence probably the adjective *sebuk*—*light*, *easy*, *cheerful*, in opposition to *gloomy*, *heavy*, *despondent*.—Thus, in another gazel of the same admirable poet, the compound *sebukbaran* (سبكباران), which is literally *the bearers of light burdens*, or, in the language of the Scriptures, *men whose yoke is easy and whose burden light*, is applied to the exalted and *illustrious*, to men of *affluence* and ease:

كجا وانند حال ما سبكباران

How can they judge of our situation who are bearers of light burdens?

But to return to our subject:—The Egyptian historian tells us that these victorious shepherds were *an obscure or ignoble race* (το γενος ασημοι); and Mr. Allwood, applying this to the Titans, into which the Cushites are metamorphosed in a posterior section, observes, p. 364, 'How Manetho could thus term them it is difficult to conceive.' But the difficulty does not occur to us; nor do we feel any embarrassment in referring this narration to the progeny of Chus on this account. Manetho was an Egyptian by birth, and of the sacerdotal order. The national vanity of every ancient state induced it to regard every people that surrounded it with contempt; and we have already observed that the Greeks were accustomed to denominate the Egyptians, Babylonians, and Indians, *barbarians*, at the very time when their most celebrated legislators and philosophers were traveling among them for information.

Digitized by Google

To the testimony of Manetho our author might easily have added that of Zonaras, who, tracing the same line of march, informs us that 'all these facts (or doctrines) were imported from Chaldea into Egypt, and were thence derived to the Greeks *.' But there is a passage of Diodorus Siculus, preserved only indeed as a fragment by Photius, in which this double migration of the Cushite shepherds and the Israëlites under Moses appears to be so clearly intimated, that it may almost become decisive upon the point; and we are astonished not to find it quoted by our author, in addition to the testimonials he has advanced. 'In consequence of this,' says the historian, 'as some writers inform us, the most valorous and exalted of those strangers who were in Egypt, and were compelled to leave the country, migrated towards the coast of Greece, as also to a variety of other regions, under the command of leaders chosen for the occasion. Some of these colonies were conducted by Danaüs and Cadmus, who were the most illustrious of all the race. Besides these, however, there was afterwards a large but more ignoble people, who migrated into the province now known by the name of Judea †.'

Upon the whole however, notwithstanding, as our readers will perceive, Mr. Allwood might easily have added to the testimonies he has adduced, he has here at least '*established a probability*,' and confirmed, in no inconsiderable degree, the hypothesis of Mr. Bryant, whose footsteps he invariably pursues.

(To be concluded in our next.)

ART. IX.—*History of Great Britain, from the Revolution to the Commencement of the Year* 1799. *By W. Belsham. Vol. V.* 4*to.* 1*l.* 1*s. Boards.* Robinsons. 1801.

THE events of the period recorded in this volume, from 1793 to 1799, are in the highest degree interesting; but to place them in their just light, to give them the dignity of history, the historian should have been farther removed from the period he celebrates, and, by an accumulation of testimonies, from the memoirs, letters, and subsequent acts of the principal agents, been enabled to see into the secret springs of every action, and to trace to its cause, and its consequence, the political measures of

---

'* Εκ Χαλδαιων γαρ λεγεται φοιτησαι ταυτα προς Αιγυπτον, κακειθεν προς Ἑλληνας.' V. i. p. 22.

'† Ευθυς μεν ὁ ξενηλατημενων των αλλοεθνων οἱ επιφανεστατοι, και δραστικωτατοι συστραφεντες εξερριφησαν, ὡς τινες φασιν, εις την Ἑλλαδα, και τινας ἑτερους τοπους, εχοντες αξιολογους ἡγεμονας· ὡν ἡγουντο Δαναος, και Καδμος, των αλλων επιφανεστατοι. Ὁδε πολυς λεως εξεπεσεν εις την νυν καλουμενην Ιουδαιαν.'

Digitized by Google

every year. Under other circumstances, a history may be written, calculated to amuse and instruct those who have been eye-witnesses of the principal facts; it may bring back, in an entertaining manner, to their mind, the speeches which they had heard in either house of parliament, or had read in detail in the papers of the day; it may serve as a book of reference, and contain useful hints for the future historian. A great part of the volume before us is taken up with extracts from parliamentary debates; nothing scarcely is advanced but what might be derived from the passing documents before the public; political measures are animadverted upon with great spirit; and the writer loses no opportunity of showing his aversion to the late administration.

The volume opens with the debates in parliament, on the message from the king relative to the correspondence between M. Chauvelin and the minister for foreign affairs; and it is singular that this debate took place on the very day that France declared war against Great-Britain. A second debate follows on the message from the king, announcing the French declaration of war. The affairs on the continent, after some other less important debates, occupy our attention; the entrance of Dumouriez into Holland, his exploits and defection, the manifesto of the prince of Cobourg, military transactions under and total defeat of the duke of York, the operations on the Rhine, establishment of the revolutionary tribunal in France, trial and execution of the queen, the reign of terror, our captures in the East and West Indies, and the insults offered by the court of London to the neutral powers, form the principal features of the history given us of the year 1793. The year 1794, detailed in the twentieth book, opens with debates in parliament; of which the investigation of the conduct of the Scotch judges, the slave-trade, suspension of the Habeas-Corpus act, and the series of resolutions moved by the duke of Bedford and Mr. Fox, form the principal features. The brilliant successes of the French under Pichegru, the disastrous flight of the British army, the conquest of Holland by the French, their campaigns in Germany, Spain, and Italy, our conquests in the West Indies, and of Corsica, with the naval victory of lord Howe, afford ample matter for the historian to display his talents in recording military transactions. The fall of Robespierre, the trials in England and Scotland for high treason, lord Macartney's embassy to China, and the final partition of Poland, are among the principal remaining facts detailed of this eventful year. The twenty-first book opens with a display of the wonderful acquisitions of France in the beginning of 1795, proceeds to the debates in parliament, then relates the military transactions, gives an ample statement of the internal affairs of France, the proceedings of the Girondists and the new constitution, with the dissolution of the Convention. The trea-

Digitized by Google

ties between Great-Britain, America, and Russia, the parliament holden in Corsica, the revival of the pop-gun plot, and the popular meetings at Chalk Farm, conclude the history of the year.

The twenty-second book commences with parliamentary affairs for the latter end of 1795, and beginning of 1796, proceeds to the military operations in Germany, and Bonaparte's wonderful campaign in Italy, our evacuation of Corsica, the internal affairs of France, and the ill success of lord Malmesbury's negotiation. The twenty-third book opens with the speech from the throne, in October 1796, and carries us through the debates of that session, in which the illegal advance of money to the emperor, by Mr. Pitt, affords room for spirited animadversion. The deranged affairs of the bank, and its stoppage of payment, the mutiny in the fleet, motions for dismissal of ministers, military affairs in Italy, lord Duncan's victory, interior state of France, lord Malmesbury's third attempt to negotiate, and the treaty at Campo Formio and congress at Rastadt, form the principal features of this book. The twenty-fourth and last book gives us the closing debates of the year 1797, and of the session in which they were continued in 1798; in which the triple assessments, the voluntary contributions, and motion for the removal of ministers, by the duke of Bedford, keep up the appearance of discussion after the secession of the opposition: and the childish duel, between Pitt and Tierney, might have afforded larger scope for censure to one who, on other occasions, seems willing to deal it out on the first of these characters with a very liberal hand. The Irish rebellion, subversion of the papal government, disastrous expedition to Ostend, Bonaparte's invasion of Egypt, subversion of the Neapolitan government, and the wise conduct of the king of Prussia, are the chief proceedings related of this year, which terminates with a most melancholy presage of future evils, and just reprobation of those who seemed little willing to remove from the oppressed inhabitants of Europe the horrors of war.

We have already observed that the late minister is the object (and we cannot deny the justice in general) of this writer's censure; but the dignity of history requires that such censure should be expressed in decorous terms, and betray no suspicion of the writer's being too much actuated by the spirit of party. Here we cannot but remark a failure in our author's style: the terms in which he stigmatises parts of the minister's conduct are low and unbecoming; and if we could reconcile ourselves to the title of 'that perfidious minister' (and his solid system of finance is deservedly an object of ridicule), yet it might be covered by better terms than those of 'this vapouring vaunting mountebank minister.' We might allow that in Mr. Tooke's trial 'the unparalleled meanness and baseness of Mr. Pitt's disposition displayed itself in a most conspicuous manner;' yet it is aping too much the vulgar mode, of praising living monarchs

Digitized by Google

as the best of kings, when the poor premier is represented as 'the worst of men, in the commission of the worst of deeds.' If it be too true that 'his visionary plans and projects have been every-where defeated, and his predictions have been uniformly falsified;' if he have proved himself to have been 'evidently destitute of the talents necessary for carrying on any war but the war of words;' not even his ridiculous duel with Mr. Tierney can justify the epithets of 'a bullying, boasting, Bobadil statesman.' His guilt may be very great; yet it was scarcely the business of the historian to be very solicitous after the imaginary horrors of his conscience.

'Could so callous a heart, and so cold an imagination, be awakened to a just sense of its deep and inexpiable guilt, hosts of bloody spectres would haunt his solitude, his ears would be appalled with visionary shrieks, the very air would utter loud laments, and he would be doomed to feel all the tortures of remorse, all the unutterable agonies of despair!' P. 209.

Similar sentiments and expressions occur in many parts of the work; but at times the just indignation of the writer is well expressed, and the events of one or two years of the late administration seem to vindicate the following remark.

'Under the administration of Mr. Pitt, bigotry and malignity advanced with an accelerated progress, and every species of improvement, moral, intellectual, or political, seemed gradually to become the object first of cold indifference to this insidious statesman, then of dislike, and at length of fear, of hatred, and of horror.' P. 121.

The memorable campaign of 1794, which ended with the flight of the English from Holland, is said to have been 'conceived, on the part of the British ministry, in the spirit of madness, and conducted in that of the most complete imbecillity.' In another place we are told, that,

'Most unfortunately for the interests of the British empire, her affairs had now been for ten years in the hands of a minister of great eloquence, art, and address indeed, but who was alike destitute of that enlarged comprehension of mind, and of those generous feelings of the heart, which form, when combined, that greatest of human characters—the genuine patriot statesman. The voice of Mr. Pitt, when aspiring to political pre-eminence, had been beyond all others loudest in the clamor of reform; and, when he had attained to power, his hand was beyond all others heaviest in the oppression and persecution of those who had listened to his doctrines and had acted upon his principles.' P. 189.

Indeed no opportunity is lost of chastising the temerity of the fallen minister; and his attempt to reform the poor's laws justifies the severity of the censure.

'Mr. Pitt, agreeably to his engagement, brought in a bill for the

Digitized by Google

reform of the poor's laws, so absurd, so indigested, and so impracticable, that it found not a single advocate, either in or out of the house; and the sanguine expectations he had excited of a reform on this, as on other occasions of still higher moment, were most completely disappointed.' P. 238.

The disgrace brought on the bank of England naturally excites the warmth of our historian; and the minister is said to have succeeded in converting it 'into a mere engine of government, in bringing an indelible disgrace on its reputation, and in making it entirely subservient to the advancement of his own ruinous, wicked, and frantic projects.' But Mr. Pitt is not the only one who is thus chastised. 'The earl of Liverpool, late lord Hawkesbury, and still better known under the name of Charles Jenkinson,' is described as one 'who might almost be regarded as the evil genius of Britain personified;' and the late king of Prussia is adorned with the epithet of 'that selfish, crafty, and unprincipled monarch.'

After the specimens we have given of the estimation in which the late premier is held by our writer, our readers will justly conclude that Mr. Fox is the object of his unbounded admiration. In such a situation of his mind, a principal actor in a third party could scarcely expect very favourable treatment; and Mr. Horne Tooke is, in consequence of his trial, thus introduced.

'After an interval of eleven days—no doubt days of chagrin and perplexity—on the part of the ministry, was brought to the bar of this high court of justice the celebrated John Horne Tooke, formerly and for many years a priest of the church of England—a man possessed of extraordinary intellectual talents, but of a peculiar kind, and blended with a considerable alloy of eccentricity. Of obscure and nameless origin, he suddenly appeared in the political world as an extravagant and erring spirit burst from its confine. He first distinguished himself as a violent partizan of Mr. Wilkes, at the time of the famous Middlesex contest—being then curate of Brentford, where the election was held. Such was the enthusiastic ardor of his patriotic zeal at this early period of his life, that, to preserve the liberties of his country inviolate, he publicly declared his readiness to dye his black coat red. He possessed no mean degree of learning and knowledge, and his powers of elocution and self-possession were very uncommon. His habitual influence over the wills and passions of those with whom he was connected indicated a mind of great energy. On some occasions he exhibited himself to the judicious part of the public as a sincere and enlightened champion of the liberties of the people, and on others as an artful and aspiring demagogue. This singular man had the presumption, at the last general election, to offer himself as a candidate for the city of Westminster—pretending to be offended at the virtual compromise which had taken place between the court and country parties in the persons of lord Hood and Mr. Fox. On the eventual failure of his hopes (although he

Digitized by Google

polled a very great number of votes) he presented a petition to the house of commons against the return, drawn in the most audacious terms of political invective and reproach, but containing also much indisputable and melancholy truth. This petition, being referred, in the usual mode, to a committee, was declared frivolous and vexatious; but by a wise policy, too frequently and fatally departed from in matters of higher moment, no farther notice whatever was taken of it by the house.' P. 129.

The historian is here singularly unfortunate in his attempt to delineate this very extraordinary character. To say, in England, that a man is of obscure and nameless origin, is a poor attempt to depreciate the merits of one who had received his education at Westminster and Eton, and had been distinguished for his abilities in the university of Cambridge; in which places he formed intimacies with persons of high rank and station, which were increased in the course of his travels over Europe. Where also is the presumption of this singular man in offering himself a candidate for Westminster, any more than in Tierney and Whitbread, men of equally 'obscure and nameless origin,' making similar offers at Southwark and Bedford? The singular attempt was made by one who presented himself to the people —unassisted by aristocratical influence, and without the all-powerful arms of wealth—he stood on real constitutional grounds, used none of the usual arts of elections, and obtained a considerable number of votes from the sense entertained of his abilities and integrity. In the progress of the work, however, our historian appeals for a sentiment to the authority of this singular man. 'The public (says a man of talents, who has been unjustly stigmatised as a favourer of violent reform – Mr. Horne Tooke) ought never to receive a benefit at the expence of an individual.'—But our writer requires, it seems, some particular marks by which his characters are to be distinguished. It is "the celebrated M. de Calonne," because we presume he held a high office in France;—it is 'one D'Ivernois, created Sir Francis D'Ivernois, a dealer, wholesale and retail, in ridiculous paradoxes,' because the writer did not recollect that this one d'Ivernois had been distinguished in his own country. We do not hold the reveries of the knight in very high estimation; yet if he should in his future annual volumes celebrate our author, as one Belsham, a dealer in history, the retort would be justifiable; for assuredly the name of D'Ivernois is not less known in this country, and through the whole of Europe, than that of our historian.

Our historian is not always sufficiently solicitous to give an accurate statement of facts. O'Coigley is said to have been 'capitally convicted, and immediately executed;' whereas the execution did not for some time follow the conviction—attempts being made in the interval to discover from him the extent of the conspiracy in which he had been engaged. 'No

Digitized by Google

thing beyond presumptions (it is added) appearing against his companions,—Allen and Leary were, by the lenity of the English maxims of jurisprudence, set at liberty.' Now in what that lenity consisted we are at a loss to discover: Leary was declared by the jury not guilty; and it appeared, during the course of the trial, that he was merely a poor Irish boy, who followed his master in the capacity of groom. By the maxims of jurisprudence of the most barbarous country in Europe, such a servant would have been dismissed from the bar, and a contrary procedure would have been a disgrace to the country.—How far the historian is justified in pronouncing so positively on a circumstance which was disputed in the house of commons, it is not for us to determine.

'In the course of the preceding winter a treaty of marriage had been negotiated between the prince of Wales and the princess Caroline, daughter to the duke of Brunswic. Early in the month of April the princess arrived in England, when the nuptials were celebrated with extraordinary magnificence. It was, however, well understood that the prince acceded to this alliance with much reluctance—his attachment to the accomplished Mrs. Fitzherbert, with whom the marriage-ceremony, though invalid by law, had undoubtedly passed, having suffered no diminution. He was induced to this fatal compliance by two considerations; first, the pressing instances of the king to dissolve his connexion with the lady who had so long been in possession no less of his esteem than his affection; and, secondly, the promise positively made to him that immediate provision should be made for the discharge of his debts, now increased to a vast amount.' P. 172.

Now, if we could suppose the marriage ceremony to have passed, as we know of no act by which it has been invalidated, the two parties must be evidently still under that bond.—In the case of another prince of the blood royal, united, avowedly, by the marriage-bond, to the daughter of a peer, an inquiry took place in Doctor's Commons, and the marriage was set aside; and consequently the issue by that marriage may be debarred from the privileges which they would otherwise have enjoyed in this country: but, as the marriage contract had the sanction of the laws of another country, it is justly doubted whether the decision of our Commons can affect the rights of the royal issue of this marriage, which they may inherit from their father, independently of the laws of this island. On this account, our historian should have been extremely careful in his assertion respecting the supposed marriage of the prince of Wales; for if that also had taken place out of this island, difficulties might arise in the succession to the electorate, and other territories appending to the Brunswic family, and not to the crown of Great Britain.

We will now give our readers a specimen of an attempt at

Digitized by Google

fine writing, which was excited by a reflexion on the eloquence of Mr. Pitt.

'Great as the influence of the crown may be supposed in the house of commons, it is impossible to attribute the vast majorities of the present minister, particularly since the commencement of the war with France, to the operation of that influence merely. Eloquence, that fatal talent when misapplied, will of itself produce mighty effects: and it must be remarked, that the eloquence of Mr. Pitt has ever been exerted in unison with the rooted prejudices of the house and of the nation, and in no one instance has it ever been employed to counteract a popular error. Hatred to France is a political chord, which vibrates to every touch; and when that master-passion is, by the force of imagination, connected with a reverence to religion, respect to morals, to social order, to regular government, and, in a word, to all the ties which unite the different classes of men in the bonds of civilization and humanity, it must require comparatively small skill to guide and direct the effects of it. The generous solicitude which transiently showed itself for the success of the French nation, in their efforts to establish a free constitution, was suddenly and totally absorbed in the horror excited by their subsequent enormities, without sufficiently considering the provocations which gave rise to them, or, what was of still greater moment, that a whole nation ought not to be execrated for the offences of comparatively a few individuals. What are usually styled the crimes of France are, in deed and in truth, for the most part, only her misfortunes and calamities; and they are no doubt as much the subject of abhorrence and detestation with the great mass of the people in that country as in this. Is it possible to prefer anarchy to tranquillity, oppression to protection, or malevolence to benignity? So long as the passions of that high-spirited nation are inflamed and exasperated by opposition, so long will they be more or less chargeable with excesses moral and political—so long will they remain strangers to the countless and invaluable blessings of liberty: for genuine liberty can in no clime, age, or country, ever be separated from the control of law,—liberty itself being the law of reason, of justice, and of humanity. And, "Oh Law!" understood in this its best and highest sense, to use the sublime language of a justly-admired writer, "no less can be said than that her seat is the bosom of God, her voice the harmony of the world; all things in heaven and earth do her homage,—the very least as feeling her care, the greatest as not exempted from her power. Both angels and men, and creatures of what condition soever, though each in different sort and manner, yet all, with uniform consent, admiring her as the mother of their peace and joy." P. 155.

The apostrophe to Law is a sublime but very trite quotation, and uncle Toby affords, in another place, a concluding sentiment to a paragraph. On the prayer, at the end of the viceroy's speech to the first and last parliament in Corsica, it is observed that the petition was 'lost in empty air long before it reached the pen of the recording angel.' We have less reason to regret the event,

Digitized by Google

as the crown of Corsica is afterwards styled 'that most egregious and ridiculous bauble.'

If, however, the writer sometimes suffer himself to be carried away by a little conceit, he rises occasionally with great dignity. The dissolution of the national convention of France gave him an opportunity of showing considerable powers, though the judgement passed upon its actions cannot be expected, in the present state of public opinion, to meet with general approbation.

'This assembly terminated its sittings very nobly; for the last decrees which it passed were for the abolition of the punishment of death at the return of peace, and for granting a general amnesty, though limited perhaps by too many exceptions: and on the 27th of October (1795), the day appointed by law, the president declared that "the national convention was dissolved." Such was the extraordinary merits of an assembly, whose merits and demerits, whose glorious acts, and whose criminal excesses, will long be the theme of history. With a daring hand she signed the death-warrant of the successor of a hundred kings, and broke the sceptre which the superstition of fourteen centuries had consecrated. Standing greatly alone against a confederacy of crowned despots, she brought her armed myriads into the field, and compelled her enemies to flee with shame and confusion from the land which they had in their vain and foolish imaginations already conquered, and of which they were eager to divide the spoils. But the magnanimity of this assembly was sullied by licentiousness and contaminated by cruelty: their actions will excite the admiration of every age; and a distant posterity will perhaps pardon, while it deplores, their frailties and their faults.' P. 215.

We were pleased to see that a singular occurrence was not omitted in this history, which relieves the mind overwhelmed with descriptions of battles, treasons, carnage, and desolation. A government that would not, when it had opportunity, extend its territory, is a rare phænomenon; and the little republic of San Marino delivered an answer worthy of a Fabricius.

'In the progress of his march, general Buonaparte, finding himself near the celebrated mountain which comprises the whole territory of the ancient republic of St. Marino, was seised with the noble enthusiasm of displaying in the most flattering and conspicuous manner the respect which was due to this genuine remnant of the sons of freedom. The ambassador Monge, deputed by the French general, told the chiefs of this obscure but happy community, that he came in the name of the French people to assure the ancient republic of St. Marino of their inviolable friendship. He entered into a concise history of the principal events of the revolution, and signified the glorious success with which their efforts had been crowned. After complimenting them for the asylum afforded to liberty within their walls, during the centuries when it seemed banished from the rest of Europe, the ambassador intimated, that if it was the wish of the government of St. Marino to enlarge the limits of their territory, the French republic would gladly embrace the occasion to give them the

Digitized by Google

most solid proofs of their good will. The reply of this small but virtuous and unambitious state was such as to afford a lesson both of political and moral wisdom to all the nations of Christendom.—"We place, (said they) citizen ambassador, in the number of the most glorious epochas that have distinguished the annals of our freedom, the day of your mission to our republic. Your republic not only conquers its enemies by the force of its arms, but fills its friends with amazement at the generosity of its proceedings. The love of our liberty makes us feel the worth of the magnanimous exertions of a great people aspiring to recover their own. Those exertions have surpassed all expectation. Your nation, single against the rest of Europe, has afforded the world an astonishing example of what that energy can achieve which is produced by the sentiment of liberty. —Your army, marching in the steps of Hannibal, and surpassing by its deeds whatever is most wonderful in antiquity, led on by a hero who unites to every virtue the powers of the most distinguished genius, has cast a glance on a corner of the globe where a remnant of the sons of liberty fled for refuge, and where is found rather the plainness of Spartan manners than the elegance of Athens. You know, citizen ambassador, that the simplicity of our customs, the deep sentiment we cherish of liberty, are the only inheritance which has been transmitted to us by our fathers: this we have been able to preserve untouched amidst the political convulsions which have taken place in the succession of many revolving ages, and which neither ambition nor hatred has been able to destroy. Return then to the hero who has sent you: Carry back to him the free homage not only of that admiration which we share with the whole world, but also of our gratitude: Tell him that the republic of St. Marino, satisfied with its mediocrity, fears to accept of his generous offer of enlarging its territory, which might in the end prove injurious to its liberty."

'Here then is a striking and instructive instance of a community enjoying in grateful contentment their beloved and enviable freedom while a thousand years have rolled away, and who, satisfied with the peaceful possession of their native mountain, refuse to hearken to the most tempting offers of an enlargement of their dominion. What a contrast to the wicked and absurd policy of those Christian countries which, great in riches, in extent of territory and population, place their chief glory in subjecting to their tyrannical yoke the farthest regions of the globe, whose weak and unoffending inhabitants could never have afforded the slightest pretext for inflicting upon them these atrocious injuries, and who have no knowledge of their conquerors, but in the character and capacity of oppressors, plunderers, and assassins!' P. 360.

From these extracts our readers will form their opinion of a work which is evidently written on the spur of the occasion: and we may rather applaud the author for his dispatch in a concern of such magnitude, than blame him for not obtaining ends which require much time, long meditation, accurate investigation, and nervous and animated diction. The work is written with an easy flow: it brings together events nearly as they occurred in the order of time; and may be perused with

Digitized by Google

pleasure by those who are hostile to the late minister. If some of the political reflexions, which might serve as food for essays, were expunged, the work would receive no injury: low expressions should be obliterated, and the correcting hand of the writer may be often advantageously employed.—The reflexion, with which the history concludes, shall terminate our remarks; and it is no bad specimen of the author's style, and his mode of winding up a period.

'Thus, by the profligate ambition and presumption of the French directory on the one part, and the pride, folly, and mischievous activity of the British administration on the other, was a war, which appeared well nigh terminated, re-commenced with additional fury;—seeming but too likely to extend to a long succession of calamitous and mournful years, destined to be recorded in letters of blood. But the terrified imagination sees pourtrayed, on the veil which conceals futurity from mortal view, frightful forms and ominous characters, bearing little resemblance to the events actually pre-ordained, in the course of human affairs, to take place.' P. 533.

ART. IV.—*Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society of London. For the Year* 1801. *Part I.* 17*s. sewed.* 4*to.* Elmsly.

THE first article in this interesting volume is 'The Croonian Lecture, on the Irritability of Nerves, by Everard Home, Esq. F.R.S.' The case that suggested the author's inquiries and experiments was by no means a singular one. A person thirty-six years of age, of an irritable habit, was thrown from a horse with his whole weight on his thumb. The part swelled and became subject to spasms and paralytic affections, which in time extended to the head, and terminated in death. The injury, as is evident from concomitant circumstances, existed in the median nerve, which was divided as it passes from under the annular ligament, but without success. This injury might have been varied; the divided extremity might have adhered to the external wound, and been affected by *its* inflammation: it is at least certain that wounded and divided nerves do not heal easily, and it is equally certain that injuries at the divided extremities of nerves are referred to those extremities which existed previous to the division. The circumstances however show that irritation *did* continue at the extremity next the arm, and it is singular that no attention was paid to the irritated part. Mr. Home's views in the present article are directed to a very different quarter, viz. the contraction of the nerves themselves, independently of the muscular fibres. He divided, therefore, different nerves of animals, alive, and immediately after being killed. He found the contraction considerable, and, *cæteris pa-*

Digitized by Google

ribus, uniform. We cannot enter into any controversy on the subject, because it would lead us too far; and shall only remark, that the language of *experimental* physiologists has been, unequivocally, that the nerves do *not* contract when divided; that our author's experiments are peculiarly doubtful, because he raised the nerve on a bistory, or divided it with a pair of scissors. Various physiologists would have told him that compressing the severed end of a nerve which leads to a muscle would have made it contract, and its elevation on a bistory, or its compression by the closing blades of a pair of scissors, must certainly produce the same effect. The contraction of the muscle, as it shortens that organ, must of course excite a retraction of the separated nerve. In his experiments also he ought not to have included the coats of the nerve, which are certainly elastic, and not without suspicion of being muscular. He cannot hence, therefore, predicate irritability of nerves, which, if it were observable in his experiments, might be derivable from their tunics. On the whole, we think the present article, either in point of reasoning or observation, wholly inconclusive, and perhaps unworthy of a place in the present very respectable collection.

'II. The Bakerian Lecture. On the Mechanism of the Eye. By Thomas Young, M.D. F.R.S.'

This paper, in many views excellent, is designed chiefly to support our author's opinion, that the eye is adapted to vision, at different distances, chiefly, if not entirely, by the muscular fibres of the crystalline lens or its coat. We cannot give an adequate view of the whole, but shall follow Dr. Young so far as our circumstances will permit.

He begins with considering the refractive power of a variable medium, applying his observations to the structure of the crystalline lens. This part, from its mathematical form, is incapable of abridgement; but we must particularly mention with approbation his very simple and accurate instrument, the optometer, founded on the same principle, and for the same purposes, with that described by Dr. Porterfield in the fourth volume of the Medical Essays of Edinburgh. We ought perhaps to select our author's determination of the refractive power of the crystalline lens, and his remarks on the causes of the different conclusions on this point.

'For determining the refractive power of the crystalline lens by a direct experiment, I made use of a method suggested to me by Dr. Wollaston. I found the refractive power of the centre of the recent human crystalline to that of water, as 21 to 20. The difference of this ratio from the ratio of 14 to 13, ascertained from calculation, is probably owing to two circumstances. The first is, that the substance of the lens being in some degree soluble in water, a portion of the aqueous fluid within its capsule penetrates after death, so as some-

Digitized by Google

what to lessen the density. When dry, the refractive power is little inferior to that of crown glass. The second circumstance is, the unequal density of the lens. The ratio of 14 to 13 is founded on the supposition of an equable density: but, the central part being the most dense, the whole acts as a lens of smaller dimensions; and it may be found by Prop. VII. that if the central portion of a sphere be supposed of uniform density, refracting as 21 to 20, to the distance of one half of the radius, and the density of the external parts to decrease gradually, and at the surface to become equal to that of the surrounding medium, the sphere thus constituted will be equal in focal length to a uniform sphere of the same size, with a refraction of 16 to 15 nearly. And the effect will be nearly the same, if the central portion be supposed to be smaller than this, but the density to be somewhat greater at the surface than that of the surrounding medium, or to vary more rapidly externally than internally. On the whole, it is probable that the refractive power of the centre of the human crystalline, in its living state, is to that of water nearly as 18 to 17; that the water imbibed after death reduces it to the ratio of 21 to 20; but that, on account of the unequable density of the lens, its effect in the eye is equivalent to a refraction of 14 to 13 for its whole size. Dr. Wollaston has ascertained the refraction out of air, into the centre of the recent crystalline of oxen and sheep, to be nearly as 143 to 100; into the centre of the crystalline of fish, and into the dried crystalline of sheep, as 152 to 100. Hence, the refraction of the crystalline of oxen in water should be as 15 to 14: but the human crystalline, when recent, is decidedly less refractive.

These considerations will explain the inconsistency of different observations on the refractive power of the crystalline; and, in particular, how the refraction which I formerly calculated, from measuring the focal length of the lens, is so much greater than that which is determined by other means. But, for direct experiments, Dr. Wollaston's method is exceedingly accurate.' p. 41.

The whole extent of the retina is not equally sensible, nor is its vision equally perfect: the imperfection, Dr. Young remarks, begins within a degree or two of the visual axis, and at the extent of five or six degrees becomes nearly stationary; but, at a still greater distance, is principally, if not wholly extinguished. The imperfection is owing to the unavoidable aberration of the oblique rays, but chiefly to the insensibility of the retina, throughout its whole extent; the sensible portion of which probably coincides with the painted choroïd of quadrupeds. In general, the retina is of such a form as to receive the most perfect image on every part of its surface that the state of each refracted pencil will admit; and the varying density of the crystalline renders *that state* capable of delineating such a picture to the greatest advantage. This contrivance is truly a beautiful one, and it is here admirably developed; but, with all the advantage it affords, the eye is seldom perfectly achromatic.

Our author next considers more particularly the faculty of

Digitized by Google

the eye of accommodating itself to the different distances of an object, and inquires whether it may arise from the diminution of the radius of the cornea, the increased distance of the lens from the retina, or a change in the figure of the lens itself. We need scarcely observe that Dr. Young decides in favour of the latter cause, in support of which his arguments and experiments are highly judicious and well contrived. We dare not say that the proposition is demonstrated: but, in Dr. Young's hands, it has attained an elucidation and degree of evidence which we scarcely ever expected to have found. He admits, that the action formerly attributed to the external coats cannot afford a solution of the phænomenon. The change must be in the lens itself. He thinks he can trace nerves not wholly into the lens, but very nearly approaching it; and, on the whole, is of opinion that it must be considered as a muscular organ.

'I consider myself as being partly repaid for the labour lost in search of the nerves of the lens, by having acquired a more accurate conception of the nature and situation of the ciliary substance. It had already been observed, that in the hare and in the wolf, the ciliary processes are not attached to the capsule of the lens; and if by the ciliary processes we understand those filaments which are seen detached after tearing away the capsule, and consist of ramifying vessels, the observation is equally true of the common quadrupeds, and, I will venture to say, of the human eye. Perhaps this remark has been made by others, but the circumstance is not generally understood. It is so difficult to obtain a distinct view of these bodies undisturbed, that I am partly indebted to accident for having been undeceived respecting them: but having once made the observation, I have learnt to show it in an unquestionable manner. I remove the posterior hemisphere of the sclerotica, or somewhat more, and also as much as possible of the vitreous humour, introduce the point of a pair of scissars into the capsule, turn out the lens, and cut off the greater part of the posterior portion of the capsule and of the rest of the vitreous humour. I next dissect the choroid and uvea from the sclerotica; and, dividing the anterior part of the capsule into segments from its centre, I turn them back upon the ciliary zone. The ciliary processes then appear, covered with their pigment, and perfectly distinct both from the capsule and from the uvea; and the surface of the capsule is seen shining, and evidently natural, close to the base of these substances. I do not deny that the separation between the uvea and the processes extends somewhat further back than the separation between the processes and the capsule; but the difference is inconsiderable, and in the calf does not amount to above half the length of the detached part. The appearance of the processes is wholly irreconcileable with muscularity; and their being considered as muscles attached to the capsule is therefore doubly inadmissible. Their lateral union with the capsule commences at the base of their posterior smooth surface, and is continued nearly to the point where they are more intimately united with the termination of the uvea; so that, however this portion of the base of the

Digitized by Google

processes were disposed to contract, it would be much too short to produce any sensible effect. What their use may be cannot easily be determined: if it were necessary to have any peculiar organs for secretion, we might call them glands for the percolation of the aqueous humour; but there is no reason to think them requisite for this purpose.' P. 78.

Some other remarks on the eyes of fishes, insects, &c. are added; but we shall prefer transcribing our author's own recapitulation.

'First, the determination of the refractive power of a variable medium, and its application to the constitution of the crystalline lens. Secondly, the construction of an instrument for ascertaining, upon inspection, the exact focal distance of every eye, and the remedy for its imperfections. Thirdly, to show the accurate adjustment of every part of the eye, for seeing with distinctness the greatest possible extent of objects at the same instant. Fourthly, to measure the collective dispersion of coloured rays in the eye. Fifthly, by immerging the eye in water, to demonstrate that its accommodation does not depend on any change in the curvature of the cornea. Sixthly, by confining the eye at the extremities of its axis, to prove that no material alteration of its length can take place. Seventhly, to examine what inference can be drawn from the experiments hitherto made on persons deprived of the lens; to pursue the inquiry, on the principles suggested by Dr. Porterfield; and to confirm his opinion of the utter inability of such persons to change the refractive state of the organ. Eighthly, to deduce, from the aberration of the lateral rays, a decisive argument in favour of a change in the figure of the crystalline; to ascertain, from the quantity of this aberration, the form into which the lens appears to be thrown in my own eye, and the mode by which the change must be produced in that of every other person. And I flatter myself that I shall not be deemed too precipitate in denominating this series of experiments satisfactorily demonstrative.' P. 82.

'III. On the necessary Truth of certain Conclusions obtained by Means of imaginary Quantities. By Robert Woodhouse, A.M. Fellow of Caius College. Communicated by the Rev. S. Vince, A.M. Plumian Professor of Astronomy in the University of Cambridge.'

We have read with pleasure this ingenious defence of mathematics against those who reproach its paradoxes, and ridicule its impossible quantities, which are admitted as means of attaining veracity. We cannot however give any account of it which will satisfy the reader who has not made mathematical inquiries the object of his attention; and a mathematician can only read it with advantage in the work itself.

'IV. On the Production of artificial Cold by Means of Muriate of Lime. By Mr. Richard Walker. Communicated by Henry Cavendish, Esq. F.R.S.'

Digitized by Google

We have already noticed M. Lowitz's very singular discovery of the great cold produced by adding muriate of lime to snow or pounded ice. Three parts of the former to two of the latter sunk the thermometer to 50, and quicksilver in large quantities was frozen by this experiment. Mr. Walker has succeeded in repeating the experiment, and, by operating on a mixture previously cooled, has produced a temperature so low as 91—perhaps the lowest degree ever procured by human art. He then tried the muriate of lime, prepared so as to continue solid during the summer, and produced, by five parts of the salt to four of water, 29 degrees of cold. At any time therefore, in the summer, water may be reduced to 21 degrees of Fahrenheit, 11 degrees below the freezing point; and by employing ice thus procured, with some necessary precautions, mercury may be frozen in the hottest summer day. A view of the general effects of the different frigorific mixtures is added, and a postscript, announcing that ice formed *on the outside* of a vessel containing the frigorific mixture is transparent, while that produced from a fluid *immersed in the mixture* is usually opaque. The solution is, that it is frozen more slowly; but Mr. Walker generally throws an air of importance over common observations.

'V. Account of a monstrous Lamb. In a Letter from Mr. Anthony Carlisle to the Right Honourable Sir Joseph Banks, Bart. K.B. P.R.S.'

This lamb was an extraordinary production, but by no means singular. It wanted wholly the cerebrum and the head. It had two external ears, and the remains or rudiments of the small bones of the ear between these organs. One passage led from the external parts to the œsophagus and larynx. The cerebellum was perfect.—The following remarks are judicious and philosophical. We could, we think, did our limits permit, pursue them with some success.

'The narration of these appearances assists and confirms other facts, in demonstrating that the formation and growth of animals in the uterus are independent of any influence from those parts of their brain which properly belong to sensation. We have to regret that this animal did not live to show the phænomena of volitions directed to its limbs, and other apparatus, without that intelligence from the organs of the senses which regulates and directs the efforts of perfect animals. The careful observance of such circumstances may in future bring us to discoveries of the highest value, in that part of physiology which is now enveloped in deep mystery: the facts at present collated are not sufficient. The intellectual phænomena of persons who sustain known injuries of particular parts of the brain; the appearances on the dissection of ideots, with their mental particularities; the anatomical history of maniacs—all promise, when properly cultivated, a series of truths, which it may not be

Digitized by Google

extravagant to hope will open sublime views into those recesses of our construction which justly rank among the most curious, if not the most important objects of research.' P. 142.

'VI. An anatomical Description of a male Rhinoceros. By Mr. H. Leigh Thomas, Surgeon. Communicated by George Fordyce, M.D. F.R.S.'

The description before us is in a great degree new, at least to the English reader; for there is more than one dissection of the rhinoceros described by French anatomists, though, if our recollection serve, the accounts are not so full as in the present article. The animal died of an inflammation in the lungs; and, when alive, showed no attachment even to the person who fed it, but continued torpid, and apparently stupid. The anatomy, in general, corresponded to that of the horse. The cæcum was however much larger, and the internal parts of the stomach lined with a secreting membrane. The intestines were short, but their surface greatly increased by long processes, resembling the valvulæ conniventes. The liver was very soft, but this might have arisen from an unnatural mode of living. The urinary organs were apparently very simple in their structure, as an injection passed into the ureter, though urged with little force. From the convex side of the penis being towards the body, this animal must have been a retrocoient.

'Whilst the animal was living, the eyes always appeared dull and watery; the upper and under palpebræ were scarcely ever observed to come together; the palpebra tertia was frequently carried over the cornea, and corresponded in shape and structure to that of the ox. The muscles of the eye-ball were exactly similar to those of other graminivorous animals: the globe of the eye was not larger than that of the sheep; and the cornea was much smaller. Upon cutting through the sclerotic coat, it was found somewhat harder and thicker than what is observed in the sheep; and, upon endeavouring to separate it from the choroïd, I found an uncommon resistance at the posterior part of the eye; though in other parts the adhesion between the coats appeared less than what takes place in the human body. This unusual connexion naturally directed my attention more particularly towards it; when I readily discovered four processes, arising by distinct tendons from the internal and posterior portion of the sclerotica, and at equal distances from the optic nerve. These processes passed forwards between the coats, gradually becoming broader, and being insensibly lost in, and forming a part of, the choroïd, at the broadest diameter of the eye; the connexion between the coats around the outer circle of the cornea was the same as is observed in the eye of other animals. The processes had a muscular appearance—the fibres running forward in a radiated direction; they were detached from the coats with the greatest facility, except at their origins and insertions, where it required considerable force to tear them from the sclerotica; and, at

Digitized by Google

their terminations, they became so intimately connected with the choroïd, as to form only one substance. On neither of their surfaces was there any thing similar to the nigrum pigmentum; the pigment was confined to the inside of the choroïd coat, without any structure similar to the tapetum lucidum. The ciliary processes were affixed to the crystalline lens; they were extremely short and indistinct, not having that beautiful arrangement commonly seen in the eye of other quadrupeds. The iris was circular, and of a dark brown colour. The crystalline lens was somewhat remarkable, with respect to its form being nearly spherical; this was very strongly marked, when compared with the lenses of several other animals: the anterior surface was a little flattened.' P. 149.

These processes are apparently muscular: but what influence such appearances may have on the theory opposed by Dr. Young in the present volume, we cannot stay to inquire.

'VII. Demonstration of a Theorem, by which such Portions of the Solidity of a Sphere are assigned as admit an Algebraïc Expression. By Robert Woodhouse, A.M. Fellow of Caïus College, Cambridge. Communicated by Joseph Planta, Esq. Sec. R.S.'

The demonstration of this theorem is incapable of abridgement.

'VIII. Account of the Discovery of Silver in Herland Copper Mine. By the Rev. Malachy Hitchins. Communicated by the Right Hon. Sir Joseph Banks, Bart. K.B. P.R.S.'

The silver is contained in the cross lode, chiefly on the eastern side, and it raises the copper lode. The silver ore is a mixture of galena, native bismuth, grey cobalt ore, vitreous silver ore, and native silver, in the same proportions as they are arranged. The rest of the lode is quartz, intermixed with iron, manganese and wolfram, with a small proportion of cobalt and antimony. As the lode of silver dips so low, it is not likely to be very productive, especially if there be no greater powers of raising water than the present steam engines possess.

'IX. Account of an Elephant's Tusk, in which the Iron Head of a Spear was found imbedded. By Mr. Charles Combe, of Exeter College, Oxford. In a Letter to the Right Hon. Sir Joseph Banks, Bart. K.B. P.R.S.'

It is not uncommon to find balls in the tusks of elephants; but we do not remember having ever heard of a weapon, urged only by human action, being lodged in this hard substance. Mr. Combe properly supposes that it penetrated through the skull contiguous to the root of the tusk.

'X. Description of the Arseniates of Copper and of Iron, from the County of Cornwall. By the Count de Bournon. Communicated by the Right Hon. Sir Joseph Banks, Bart. K.B. P.R.S.'

Digitized by Google

'XI. Analysis of the Arseniates of Copper and of Iron, described in the preceding Paper; likewise an Analysis of the red octaëdral Copper Ore of Cornwall; with Remarks on some particular Modes of Analysis. By Richard Chenevix, Esq. M. R. I. A. Communicated by the Right Hon. Sir Joseph Banks, Bart. K. B. P. R. S.'

These papers are very satisfactory, and show very clearly the great importance of crystallography, as analysis fully confirmed the arrangement deduced from the crystalline forms. Count de Bournon seems to be a very experienced crystallographer. The arseniates of copper are little known; they are not mentioned by Fourcroy in his late very comprehensive work, and we do not find any mention of them in the abbé Hauy's excellent system, now under our hands, and which we hope to be able to introduce to the English reader in our next Appendix. They occur however in Klaproth's Short View of the Mineralogy of Cornwall, long since translated and noticed in our journal.

It is with great regret we find it totally out of our power to follow the very able author of the former paper in all his remarks. We can only observe, that he notices four species of arseniates of copper;—1. That in the form of an obtuse octaëdron; 2. In hexaëdral laminæ with inclined sides; 3. In the form of an acute octaëdron; 4. In the form of a triedral prism.

The arseniates of iron are still more rare. These were supposed by Klaproth to be arseniates of copper; but the real ingredient is iron, and the copper seems only to be an accidental mixture. The first species, the simple arseniate of iron, crystallises in perfect tubes, sometimes, though rarely, a little flattened. The form of the second species is a rhomboïdal tetraëdral prism, two edges of which are very obtuse, and the two others very acute.

Of Mr. Chenevix's very laborious and scientific paper we are still less able to give a satisfactory analysis; for it is full of minute chemical erudition, and displays a very particular and comprehensive view of his subject in many points. The third species of the preceding paper is the most simple, containing only oxide of copper and arsenic acid, in the proportion of 60 to 39.7. The fourth species contains less copper and a proportion of water, in which some of the varieties of the third species agree. The second species contained also oxide of copper, arsenic acid, and water. The first species was of the same nature, differing only in the proportions. Various other analyses of similar ores are added, which we cannot follow. We shall therefore conclude our account of this part of the paper with two very important extracts.

'With regard to the colour of some specimens of arseniate of copper, it is easily to be accounted for upon chemical principles.

Digitized by Google

The mistake under which we have long laboured, that the green is the real oxide of copper, has happily been rectified by M. Proust. He has proved it to be a particular substance, (to which he has given the very improper name of hydrate of copper,) endowed with peculiar properties, and composed of the brown oxide, and of water, in a state of combination. From his experiments, and from what I myself have seen, I am inclined to draw the conclusion, that we have never yet obtained by art any real salt of oxide of copper. In examining, for instance, sulphate of copper, we find it to afford blue crystals; and to contain a known quantity of water of crystallization, and of what we formerly called the oxide. But that oxide still retains a quantity of water, of which when it is deprived, it passes to a very dark brown, and changes its chemical nature and properties.' P. 204.

The second passage we shall select is our author's own recapitulation:

'In taking a retrospective survey of the experiments above related, upon the various natural arseniates of copper which we have examined, we shall find,

'First, That natural arseniate of copper exists in three different states of combination; the first containing 14 *per cent.*, the second 21 *per cent.*, and the third about 29 *per cent.* of acid.

'Secondly, that each of these may contain different proportions of water, either as constituting a hydrate, or as water of crystallization.

'Thirdly, that, upon losing its water, arseniate of copper will pass from blue to pale green, and finally to brown, as in No. I.

'Fourthly, that No. I. is the only real arseniate of copper, all the others being arseniates of hydrate of copper.

'Fifthly, that No. I. is not to be admitted as an arseniate of copper containing 39,7 *per cent.* of acid. For, if we put it on the same footing with the others, in admitting a due proportion of water into its composition, we shall, by calculation, reduce it to that class containing 29 *per cent.*

'Sixthly, that, in beginning with that kind which contains the least quantity of acid, and rising progressively to that which contains the greatest, we shall find the order to be thus:

'No. VI. contains - - 14 *per cent.*
'No. V. - - - - 21 *per cent.*
'Nos. I. III. and IV. - - 29 *per cent.*

'No. II. seems to be a particular species. It consists of a much greater proportion of oxide, with a less quantity of water, (and this its external colour announces,) combined with nearly the same proportion of arsenic acid. Indeed, if certain characters did not speak so strongly in favour of this division, I should not have hesitated to class it with the last-mentioned kinds. But it is found in many states, which seems to indicate that the water is by no means in the same degree of intimate combination that it is in the others; and this alone may serve to distinguish it, to the eye of the mineralogist.

Digitized by Google

'If to the above natural arseniates is added the second artificial arseniate, we shall have another proportion of acid, at the rate of 40 *per cent.* Here then we have two simple substances combined in four different proportions, and producing seven distinct combinations.

'But, what is not the least to be admired, is the wonderful accordance in the order which two sciences, operating with very different instruments, have allotted to the same substances. By that, not only the sagacity of nature becomes very striking, but, from the acknowledged accuracy of one method of investigation, the reliance to be placed upon the other is rendered more conspicuous, and each receives additional strength and confirmation. Chemistry has long been in the habit of aiding the science of mineralogy, of which it laid the foundation; but it was not till lately that crystallography could form a judgement of its own, much less confirm the truth of the source from which it sprung.' P. 216.

The third section contains the analysis of a red octaëdral copper ore, in which the metal exists in a state hitherto unknown in nature. Of the minute chemical observations in this section we can give no analysis, but shall add the conclusion.

'From the foregoing experiments we may perceive into how many errors we may be drawn, if, in arguing from the results which we obtain, we pronounce too hastily upon the state in which a substance exists in the subject of any analysis. After what has been shown, with regard to the action of muriatic acid upon a mixture of metallic copper and black oxide of copper, both reduced to powder, and of the action of phosphoric acid upon the ore itself, it may be still a doubt whether this ore is really a suboxide, or a mixture of metallic copper and oxide of copper, at 20 *per cent.* of oxygen. But as similar proportions of both, after having been made red hot, presented all the properties and appearances of the ore much more strongly than when simply mixed, it is fair to conclude that it is a real suboxide. Had not muriatic acid been used, the natural conclusion would have been, that the ore was a mixture, or at most a combination, of these two substances; for such did it appear to be by the testimony of the other acids. The truth is, we are but little acquainted with the exact state in which substances exist in many natural combinations. However, in the mineral kingdom, such fallacious conclusions are less frequently to be dreaded than in the vegetable and animal kingdoms. But in every research it is important to leave as little room for them as possible; and he who would indicate a sure and constant method of ascertaining whether, in many cases, what we deem a component part is not in fact a product of the operation, would render to science a service, the real value of which is perhaps not now entirely foreseen.' P. 240.

The Meteorological Journal concludes this part of the volume. The thermometer was from 88° to 22°; but, as usual, the superior extreme is too high. The mean heat was 51; that of April 51.5. The range of the barometer was from 30.45 to 28.75; the mean height 29.90. The hygrometer from 95 to 41; its mean degree 79.2. The quantity of rain only 18.925 inches!

Digitized by Google

ART. VII.—*An Epitome of the Natural History of the Insects of China; comprising Figures and Descriptions of upwards of One Hundred new, singular, and beautiful Species: together with some that are of Importance in Medicine, Domestic Economy, &c. The Drawings are accurately drawn, engraved, and coloured, from Specimens of the Insects; the Descriptions are arranged according to the System of Linnæus, with References to the Writings of Fabricius, and other systematic Authors. By E. Donovan, Author of the Natural History of British Insects.* 4to. 4*l.* 4*s.* *Boards.* White.

THIS work is executed with peculiar beauty and accuracy; yielding, perhaps, in delicacy of colouring, to the Lepidopterous Insects of Georgia published by Mr. Abbott, but in no other respect inferior. We must however confine our commendations to the plates and the descriptions. Where the author speaks from himself, he is peculiarly unfortunate. Mr. Donovan delayed his publication till the event of lord Macartney's embassy was known; and though he regrets the 'issue' of this attempt, 'in common with every friend to the commercial advantages and scientific inquiries of this country,' he thinks it, 'on the whole, more favourable to the present publication than if the event had been different.' Does he mean that an extensive knowledge is less advantageous than a partial? or that, as he was determined to publish an 'epitome,' it was lucky that more was not known? In either case the observation is peculiarly strange. He allows that if a general intercourse had been admitted between the two nations, and the language of China had been better understood, it is impossible to calculate the advantages which entomology, among other sciences, might have derived; for the Chinese, like their neighbours the Japanese, are well acquainted with the natural productions of their empire, and zoölogy and botany are favourite studies among them. He knows not to what extent natural history has been cultivated amidst this people; but, by adding the Japanese, our author has saved us a troublesome investigation; for we *do* know, from Thunberg, that the latter have very little knowledge of their own natural productions, and that the knowledge of the Chinese in natural history, *as a science*, is, pretty certainly, in an equal degree imperfect.

In short, the author has contented himself with collections from different cabinets, and arranged the whole according to the 'favourite' system of Linnæus. He ought however to have known that Linnæus's is not a *favourite* system, and that, on the continent, it has been superseded by those of Fabricius and Olivier. The genera of the former are however added, and the synonyms of the latter in many instances; these, in

Digitized by Google

general, are numerous and accurate, and often from works little known or with difficulty procured.

Among the coleoptera,—we follow the system of Linnæus, which still continues to be *our* favourite,—we find eight species of scarabæus; the cetonia Chinensis and the melolontha viridis, two new genera from Fabricius; seven species of curculio; three of cerambyx; two of buprestis, the tenebrio femoratus, and the meloë cichoreï, the true cantharis of the ancients. Of the hemiptera we find various species, of the mantis, gryllus, cicada nepa, and cimex, with one only of the fulgora, F. candelaria. The papilios are grouped according to the fanciful analogy of the Swedish naturalist; and thirty-two species are enumerated, with some of the sphinges and phalenæ. Of the neuropteræ we have only one genus, libellula; and of the apteræ, aranea maculata, cancer mamillaris and mantis, and the scolopendra morsitans. The plates, we have already said, are executed with peculiar beauty; and in many, as in Mr. Abbott's work, a branch is added either of curiosity or of the tree on which they feed. We cannot notice every design, but shall mention some of the insects which either are rare or merit some remark.

It may be in general observed that these insects are not exclusively Chinese, and that indeed they are seldom so. To many of the descriptions miscellaneous remarks are added, which, though they break the chain of scientific delineations, are to us often pleasing and interesting. Those on the scarabæus sacer show no inconsiderable knowledge of the ancient Egyptian superstitions. The cetonia and curculio Chinensis are particularly rare, and the latter probably a non-descript. The C. perlatus and pulverulentus are equally uncommon, and have not yet been engraved. The buprestides are well figured; and our author has cleared some of the difficulties arising from the inaccuracy of Fabricius, who has confounded the B. vittata and ignita; but the whole is still somewhat obscure.

The observations subjoined to the description of the mantis flabellicornis are very pleasing; but in these auxiliary remarks, or rather in the references, we meet with some striking errors, as if the original authors were not understood by Mr. Donovan. The peculiar ferocity of the mantes, and their battles, in which the weaker sex is not spared, and their fear of the ant, are singular circumstances. It has been called the animal plant, and is supposed to have changed its animal to a vegetable nature. Our author seems to think that it may conceal the seed of a clavaria, or some other cryptogamic plant; and he thus explains rationally what has appeared wonderful or incredible. Other authors have however offered similar explanations. It is styled the soothsayer, from its immovable posture, supposed to be the position of study or adoration; but is only designed,

Digitized by Google

by its resemblance to a leaf, to mislead the incautious insect on which it preys.

The account of the fulgora candelaria is also entertaining, but too long. The author is not aware that the emission of light is voluntary; and, strange as the expression may appear, that light is separated by its motions or in its secretions. A branch of the chrysanthemum Indicum is added to the figure of the insect. The additions to the description of the cicada are also too extensive: it was thought to approach the divinities, because its supposed food, viz. dew, is less gross than that of other insects. The veneration of the Athenians for this little animal is not explained very satisfactorily; and the inquiry would lead us too far. A branch of the laurus camphora is added. The tettigonia splendidula of Fabricius is a cicada, and singularly curious. It has not before been engraved.

The cicada limbata is the white-wax insect of China, and a branch of the tallow-tree is added. A copious account of these very singular substances is annexed. The animal figured by sir George Staunton seems to be the pupa only, and what is properly the perfect animal is represented from Stoll.

Several of the cimices are peculiarly curious, as the C. dispar, Stockerus, crucifer, Phasianus, Slanbuschii, and bifidus. These seem to have formed no part of any other collection.

The butterflies are known to be singularly beautiful; and we must pass over those of common elegance, and notice only such as are highly so, or peculiarly curious. The first of these is the papilio crino, which is represented on a branch of the flowers of the renealmia exaltata—a plant and animal, so far as our knowledge extends, which have not been engraven, and each possessing a brilliancy of colour almost unexampled. The papilio peranthus of Fabricius is peculiarly scarce: it is represented on a branch of the arundo bambos. No figure of the P. Laomedon of Fabricius has been published, except in the present collection. The P. Telamon is a new and undescribed species, taken during the late embassy to China. The P. rhetenor is a Chinese insect; and our author would make it a distinct species from the P. Menelaüs, did not the authority of Fabricius oppose the separation. Its colour is of a beautiful blue; and it is represented on a branch of the thea laxa, the broad-leaved or bohea tea. The P. Vesta is peculiarly rare; and the P. pyranthe has never been figured. It is represented on the melastoma Chinensis: the colour is a bright yellow. The P. Hesperia and alymnus are very uncommon: the latter is exhibited on a flower of the hemerocallis Japonica. The P. Jacintha and Gambricius, Jairus Antiochus, Bernardus, and Erymanthis, are also rare: many of these have never been engraven.

Of the genus sphinx there are few Chinese species. The sphinx thallo is described. Mr. Donovan adds, with great pro-

Digitized by Google

priety, that the papilio thallo of Fabricius has probably no existence: it is taken from an imperfect representation in one of Edwards's plates, where the engraver seems to have completed from fancy a mutilated insect, which, after all, is not a papilio. The sphinx pecticornis is taken from the same insect. We may here add, that Fabricius, in many parts of this volume, is freely criticised, and often with justice; yet his entomology, on the whole, is the most correct and extensive that we possess. His merit consists in the accurate discrimination of the genera, and the very clear distinction and definition of the species; but, in the general distribution and arrangement, Linnæus is probably preferable.

The phalænas, with great reason, are supposed to be more numerous than the papilios. Very few are mentioned in the present volume. Under the phalæna Atlas, the family to which the silk-worm belongs, Mr. Donovan inquires into the origin of silk, and falls into the usual error of considering the Seres as Chinese. The silk of Cos was not the production of an insect, but the tuft of a marine animal. Some little, though not very satisfactory, information is added, respecting some other insects that produce silk. The phalæna militaris and lectrix are peculiarly scarce. The phalæna Zonaria is a non-descript. P. Zonaria 'alis viridibus, margine posteriore lato, rufescente, singulis macula marginali viridi.'

There are several new species of libellula. These animals are divided into three genera—the libellula, æstina, and agrion. The libellula Chinensis of Fabricius is, according to Mr. Donovan's account, truly a species of agrion.

The aranea maculata is not one of the largest spiders. It has been described by Fabricius only, and has never been before engraven. The cancer mamillaris is the only crab mentioned by Fabricius as a Chinese insect. The cancer mantis and the scolopendra morsitans scarcely merit any particular observation.

On the whole, this volume is very properly styled an Epitome of Chinese Insects; yet, as a work of natural history, it is beautiful, correct, and pleasing. The information is more extensive and more varied than is usual in publications of this kind; and, though the compilations be sometimes too long, and the remarks less connected with the chief subject of the work than might be expected, yet they relieve the mind from the dryness of mere description, and the eye from a succession of splendid representations. We may perhaps regret that these supplementary observations are not more original.

Digitized by Google

ART. VI.—*The History of Helvetia, containing the Rise and Progress of the Federative Republics, to the Middle of the Fifteenth Century. By Francis Hare Naylor, Esq. 2 Vols. 8vo. 16s. Boards.* Mawman. 1801.

OF Mr. Planta's History of Switzerland we lately gave an account so ample as to render it unnecessary that we should much enlarge on the present work, which displays considerable industry and ability. The reasons of its appearance, after the recent publication of Mr. Planta's work, are best explained by the author in his preface, which, in justice to him, shall be transcribed entire.

'I never was a friend to dedications, for I never was a friend to flattery. Nor am I an admirer of long and elaborate prefaces, because I consider the reader's judgement to be the best comment that any literary production can receive. Yet in my own case I feel myself called upon for some explanation, and as briefly as possible I will give it.

'The greater part of this publication was ready for the press before I was apprised of Mr. Planta's intention of treating the same subject. Nor is this extraordinary, since it was written during my residence in Italy. But no sooner did I see his Helvetic Confederacy advertised, than I laid down my pen, determined to wait for the appearance of that work before I finally decided upon the destiny of my own. Finding, however, that Mr. Planta's view of things differed materially from mine, and that we frequently considered the same object in an opposite light, I saw no reason to abandon my plan. How far I may have acted with prudence it remains with the public to determine.

'A word or two more may possibly be expected with regard to the conduct of the present work. In confining myself to the period which I have chosen, I have undoubtedly selected the most brilliant æra of Helvetic history. For, from the commencement of the Zuric war, the character of the Swiss underwent a material change. The confederacy was augmented in point of numbers, but its strength was evidently impaired.

'Much, I allow, remains to be said. The Burgundian and Italian wars, the progress of the reformation, the triumph of truth, and the decay of patriotism, afford an ample field for the historian, even should he decline to enter upon that awful period when the Alpine valleys ceased, perhaps for ever, to be the abode of freedom and of happiness.

'With respect to my future intentions, the public may possibly look for some information: but as yet I am unable to give it. By their decision I shall regulate my own. Thus much, however, I will venture to add—that should I discontinue my pursuit, it will not be from want of materials.

'A long residence upon the continent afforded me an opportunity of following the revolutions, both of Switzerland and Italy, through all their maze of horrors.—Papers too of the utmost importance are probably within my reach.—Yet I scarce know how to trust my feel-

See Crit. Rev. Vol. 29, New Arr. p. 241.

Digitized by Google

ings; nor do I think the present moment the most proper to treat so delicate a subject. I should wish to be thought impartial: but in whatever I undertake, I am resolved to be just.' P. i.

From the egotic tone of this preface, the intelligent reader would have observed, without Mr. Naylor's information, that he had not only resided a considerable time upon the continent, but had somewhat adopted the self-importance of a French republican author. The new philosophy is in many instances in opposition to the old: a philosopher of modern times wishes to make a world for himself, whereas his predecessors were content to bear with it as they found it; and, what is more to the present point, the latter spoke of themselves with diffidence and humility, while the former often assumes a presumptuous and disgusting vanity.

In his first volume, Mr. Naylor begins the history of Switzerland with a retrospect of that country in the time of Julius Cæsar, and proceeds to the year 1343. The second volume closes with the council of Basle, and a view of manners in the fifteenth century. It is probable the ingenious author intends to dedicate two other volumes to a continuation of the work, which shall include the recent subjugation of this country by the French: and we must confess, from the advantages in his possession referred to in the preface, that we should be inclined to prefer such additional volumes to those now before the public.

After the valuable models of modern history which have been furnished by Hume, Gibbon, and Robertson, we are surprised that the author before us has not assumed a similar form, by marking on the margin of the page its chronology and general contents, which so much contribute to perspicuity and reference. We could also wish for a more acute spirit of criticism: nor can we, for instance, blindly assent to Cæsar's position, that 257,000 Helvetians disappeared before his arms. The calculations of the ancients concerning large numbers are so vague and exaggerated, that modern accuracy may subtract at least one half. In his authorities for the subsequent period, it would have gratified us moreover if Mr. Naylor had specified his original authors, instead of satisfying himself with Swiss compilations. The history of the Burgundians is too general; while that of Switzerland, under their authority, ought nearly to have concentrated his sole attention. The writer's remark, p. 38, that the worship of images arose only from their being symbols of divine power, is too hypothetical, too much in the style of those who would reduce all mythology to one universal basis; while we know, on the contrary, that it originated from many concurrent causes. Among the Hindu idols, for example, several are symbolic, while others are confessedly only those of deified philosophers or eminent warriors.

Digitized by Google

The account of the successors of Charlemagne is also too diffuse, too much in the spirit of such German compilers as Müller and Schmidt, without a due and particular attention to Switzerland alone. In general, the modern literature of Germany, instead of deserving to be followed as a model, has always appeared to us to be merely on a par with that of England in the sixteenth and the beginning of the seventeenth centuries; so that, in works of taste and elegance, the writers of the former country may be safely pronounced to be about two centuries behind those of the latter. In the present instance the compilations are conducted with so little judgement, that, even in Mr. Naylor's abstracted account of Charlemagne and his successors, we were more than once tempted to imagine we were perusing a history of France—the proper and peculiar topics being completely abandoned. We shall, however, as a specimen of Mr. Naylor's manner of treating those remote periods, extract the following passage.

'879. Much about the same period count Boson gave a still more fatal blow to the declining power of the Carlovingian race. Boson was highly endowed by nature with all those splendid qualities which captivate applause. His military exploits had raised him to a pre-eminent station among the heroes of his age. The generosity, or rather prodigality, of his disposition, had secured to him the affections of the people. His sister, the beautiful Richilda, was the avowed favorite of Charles the Bald, to whom some authors pretend that she was privately married. By her unbounded influence, Boson had successively been elevated to the first dignities of the state, and had obtained the hand of the princess Hermengarde, the only daughter of the emperor Lewis the Second. Such brilliant distinctions were, however, by no means sufficient to content the ambition of a man whose views expanded as his fortune rose. In his opinion, nothing was done while any thing remained to be acquired. It is the remark of an ingenious writer, that men of common abilities wait for occasions, those of superior talents make them. The death of Lewis the Stammerer opened a new field to the enterprising spirit of Boson. He saw the possibility of obtaining an independent crown. His soul caught fire at the alluring prospect, and devoted every faculty to its attainment. In an age of superstition the influence of the clergy is unbounded. Happy would it have been for mankind had it always been exerted in the cause of virtue! But ambition is represented, by our great poet, as the sin by which angels fell. It was the passion to which Boson applied. He was by nature liberal; he now grew profuse. Every thing that wore an ecclesiastical habit was secure of his bounty. Hermengarde too, on her part, was not inactive, but seconded the projects of her husband with the resistless logic of wit and beauty. Such arguments are seldom ineffectual. Every eye was turned towards Boson, as the only person capable of filling the vacant throne. His virtues, his talents, his piety, all called him to it. Nobles, clergy, people, were equally unanimous in his favor. A general assembly was held at Vienne, in Dauphiny, when the Burgundian

Digitized by Google

sceptre was publicly tendered to the aspiring duke. Boson had now obtained the object of his wishes, but prudence still directed his conduct. He played his part like an experienced politician; affected surprise at the unexpected offer; pleaded inability to undertake the arduous charge; and at length requested a delay of three days, before he gave his final answer, that in solitude and retirement he might consult the inclinations of Providence. Boson's scruples, as we may easily believe, were not of a nature to require much casuistry; nor were the prelates so little versed in the arts of a court as to be deficient in argument. The fiat of heaven was given by the unerring voice of episcopacy, and Boson declared to be the elect of God. The ceremony of his coronation immediately ensued. He received the crown from the hands of the archbishop of Lyons, amid the acclamations of an applauding multitude; so that no title, either divine or human, seemed now wanting to consolidate his authority.

'No sooner were the weak descendents of Charlemagne informed of what had happened, than they roused from their lethargic slumbers, preparing to inflict a signal vengeance upon the ungrateful rebel, whose rapid rise had been, in great measure, the work of their own creation. That their indignation was just it is impossible to deny, unless we admit the dangerous position, that talents confer the only true claim to greatness. But the corrupted minds of these degenerate princes were little calculated for any heroïc exertions. Treachery was more congenial to their character; and experience had taught them the efficacy of corruption. But, to their utter confusion, they soon discovered that there was a source of power more permanent than any which terror can convey, and of which they had never suspected the existence. They found that the monarch who reigns in the hearts of his people is secure against every attack. Disappointed, and foiled in their base attempts, they had recourse to a more honorable system, and flattered themselves to effect by open force what their perfidious designs had failed to accomplish. A coalition was in consequence formed between Lewis and Carloman (the joint successors of Lewis the Stammerer), and the emperor Charles le Gros. With their united forces they entered the Burgundian territory, and laid siege to Vienne. Boson had withdrawn from the first violence of the storm, to a place of security in the neighbouring mountains, leaving the defence of his capital to Hermengarde. The princess proved herself worthy the important trust. By her example she animated the timid; by her praises she encouraged the brave. The citizens co-operated with the soldiers. Their defence was obstinate. Toils and hardships were forgotten while beauty shared them and rewarded the sufferer with a smile. On the part of the assailants the siege was languid and ill-conducted. Lewis too, unaccustomed to any fatigues but those of pleasure, fell sick and died. This event was followed by a fresh incursion of the Normans upon the coasts of France. Carloman trembled for his capital, and, drawing off his army, marched against the invaders, having first concluded a hasty peace with Boson, whose daughter he had married. Thus the whole weight of the war fell at once upon the emperor, who, finding his forces too much weakened by the defection of his ally to leave him any probability of success, immediately began to negotiate. A treaty

Digitized by Google

was in a short time concluded, upon condition that Boson should be left in tranquil possession of the Burgundian crown, provided he would consent to hold it as a fief of the empire.' Vol. i. p. 77.

When our author proceeds to lament the want of information concerning these periods, we are led to infer that he is unhappily a stranger to the exuberance of Francic chronicles. To write an exact history of Switzerland it was necessary to consult the grand collection of Bouquet; and, in our review of Mr. Planta's book, we have already recommended that of Goldastus. It is not a little surprising that both our author and Mr. Planta have nearly passed in silence the invasion of Switzerland by the Huns in the tenth century, though one of the most important and singular events in the ancient history of that country.

In p. 100 we at length arrive at the twelfth century through a mass of extraneous matter concerning the German emperors and the Burgundians; while the best form at this period would have been that of *annals*, merely indicating those events which relate to Switzerland, half of which was possessed by the Burgundians, and the other half by the Alemanni.

In his fourth chapter Mr. Naylor gives what he calls a view of society during the thirteenth century, but which is every way inferior to the trivial information adduced by Voltaire in his *Histoire Générale*. The observations are besides extended over Germany, instead of being confined to the country in question. If some literary judge had been consulted, he would doubtless have advised Mr. Naylor to have suppressed the first 148 pages, as not only trivial and uninstructive, but almost wholly extraneous.

After wading through this chaos of injudicious compilation, we at length arrive in Switzerland.

'At the accession of Rodolphus to the imperial throne, Helvetia was divided into a variety of little states. Among the most powerful of the independent barons were the counts of Toggenburg and Rapperswyl, who were masters of that remnant of the Thurgau which was unoccupied either by the bishop of Constance or the abbot of St. Gall. The canton of Zuric was subject to the potent families of Kyburg and Thurgau, with the exception of the lordship of Regensberg, which reached to the very gates of Zuric, and a small district belonging to the counts of Lensberg and the margrave of Baden. The towns of Arberg and Zofingen, with the whole western bank of the Aar, from Olten to Bibenstein, belonged to the counts of Froburg and Bucheck. In the canton of Bâle, the most considerable families were those of Thierstein and Homburg. The domain of the count of Rothenberg lay contiguous to the lake of Lucerne. Upon the extinction of the house of Zarengen, the principalities of Thun and Burgdorf had devolved to the house of Kyburg. Among the mountains of Berne we discover the lords of Wolfisburg. The great possessions of the house of Neuchâtel had

Digitized by Google

lately fallen between four collateral branches, viz. Neuchâtel, Arberg, Valendis, and Nidau. The town of Granson was subject to its respective lord. The dominions of the house of Savoy extended to the southern shore of the lake of Geneva, and from thence to St. Mauritius, while on the northern extremity it comprehended the whole country between Lausanne, Morat, and Iverdun. Even so far back as the eleventh century, this ambitious family had obtained a footing in one of the finest provinces of Transjurane Burgundy. Much about the same time the counts of Morienne had procured the investiture of the duchy of Chablais from the emperor Conrad the Second, in which grant both Vevais and Bomon were included. The inhabitants of the Lower Vallais, who were less indebted than their neighbours to nature for local strength, had likewise been rendered subject to the same jurisdiction.

'But formidable as this latter power appears, it was in reality far less so than that of the house of Hapsburg. From the remotest times that family had been in possession of the towns of Altenburg and Bruck, both places of considerable strength. Hapsburg itself was built in 1013 by Radpot, an ancestor of Rodolphus; Werner, bishop of Strasburg, who was his brother, having supplied the necessary funds. When finished, the wealthy prelate visited the castle, and, having examined it with an attentive eye, observed that the magnificence of the edifice by no means corresponded with the greatness of the expense. Radpot made no reply; but immediately called out his train of dependents, which had been greatly improved both in numbers and appearance by the bishop's liberality, and, pointing to them, exclaimed, "It is not to the strength of our castles alone, but to the numbers and discipline of our followers, that we must look for the future glory of our family!"

'Notwithstanding the truth of this observation, which seems to have been treasured up as a leading principle to direct his posterity in the paths of ambition, it is nevertheless remarkable that the Austrian family has been more frequently indebted to alliances than to conquest for their immense acquisitions. The emperor Rodolphus inherited, in right of his mother, the counties of Lenzberg, Baden, and Kyburg, the town of Winterthur, with the landgraviates of Zug and Thurgau. The counts of Lauffenburg, a younger branch of the same house, possessed the towns of Seckingen, Waldshut, Lauffenburg, and Rheinfeld; while another, but more distant relative, had succeeded the counts of Kyburg in the principalities of Burgdorf and Thun.

'The chief authority in the Grisons (the ancient Rhætia) centered in the bishops and counts of Coire; the lords of Sargans and Werdenberg had also a considerable influence in that country.

'The evident superiority of the houses of Hapsburg and Savoy over the rest of the Helvetic princes seemed clearly to indicate that the whole of Switzerland was ultimately destined either to be divided between them, or to be swallowed up by the successful competitor, in case they should disagree in the partition of their prey. Hitherto, indeed, the attention of the latter had been particularly directed towards the plains of Lombardy; while the former had entirely confined their views to northern or Germanic Helvetia: but the attain-

Digitized by Google

ment of the imperial crown opened a wider field to the aspiring genius of Rodolphus, and taught him to aim at sublimer projects.' Vol. i. p. 149.

Some account is then given of Zurich, at that time the most considerable of the Helvetian cities, and of Berne, Basle, &c. In his fifth chapter Mr. Naylor begins his statement of the Helvetic revolution.

'No sooner was the emperor's death made public, than the principal inhabitants of Uri, Schweitz, and Unterwalden, assembled to renew their ancient bond by an oath, which was conceived nearly in the following terms. "Be it known to all the world, that we, the inhabitants of the valleys of Uri, and of the mountains of Unterwalden, together with the men of Schweitz, in consideration of the alarming prospect of affairs, have united ourselves by the closest ties; and do solemnly swear to assist each other, both with our fortunes and our lives, against every aggressor whatever. Such is the spirit of our league, and it is imprinted on our hearts. It was formerly the privilege of this country to be subject to the jurisdiction of no magistrate who was not a native of it, nor to any one who had purchased his employment. Among us, the decision of every dispute should be referred to the most prudent; nor is any one at liberty to refuse the office. Our laws are simple. Whoever intentionally kills a fellow-creature shall be punished with death; and whoever attempts to screen the murderer from the hands of justice shall be banished. If any one sets fire to a house, he shall forfeit his right of citizenship, and the person who protects him shall make good the loss. The man who injures or robs another shall make ample compensation as far as his ability extends. Nor shall any one seise the property of another without the permission of a judge; nor even then, except he is his debtor, or has been security for a debt. Every member of society is equally bound to obey the magistrates; and, in cases of resistance, all men are obliged to lend their aid to the civil power. If, in a private quarrel, one party shall refuse to accept of an adequate satisfaction, all the neighbours shall side with his adversary.—These laws are established for the common benefit of us all; and, with the mercy of God, shall continue in force for ever*." ' Vol. i. p. 186.

To Mr. Naylor's proposition, p. 191, that the liberties of a people are utterly annihilated from the very moment they submit to the most trifling act of oppression, we cannot assent; for if it were granted, freedom would be a mere philosopher's stone—always sought, but never acquired. Infinite prejudice has arisen to society from vague notions concerning political freedom; which, like some texts of Scripture, have been wrested in every

'* This declaration, bearing date in the month of August 1291, lay buried among the public archives till the year 1760, when it was discovered by the diligent Tschudi, and has since been published by Gleser in his *Helvetiorum Fœdera*.

'We have preferred preserving the rude and simple style of the original to the refinements of modern language, as more impressive and appropriate.'

Digitized by Google

possible form and direction. Many theoretical writers even appear to have absolutely forgotten the practice of domestic slavery amongst the freest nations of antiquity.

Were we to dwell on the succession of events that occur, we should run a risk of repeating most of the subjects already detailed in our account of Mr. Planta's history. We shall therefore hasten to the close of the second volume, and exhibit some few of our author's general reflexions.

'If ever there existed a republic which was erected upon a virtuous principle, it was that of Helvetia. The more nearly we investigate the motives which actuated its founders, and the measures they pursued, the greater reason we shall discover to conform ourselves to this opinion. In vain we look for the strifes of ambition or the wars of interest. They had no share in the actions of that plain and honest people, whose hearts were pure as the Alpine breeze, whose manners were uncorrupted as the mountain spring. And yet, in the course of a century and an half, a tide of uninterrupted prosperity was sufficient to infect the two leading states with all those vices and passions which are the inseparable companions of wealth and commerce. The interest of the public was sacrificed to that of the individual. The grand and active principle of the federation was forgotten amid the violence of domestic dissensions, and an unnatural union formed with the hereditary enemy of Helvetic independence.

'The destiny of Helvetia appears to us a satisfactory proof, that virtue, considered as the fundamental principle of government, is the mere phantom of a heated imagination, the child of theory and speculation; but that it is in vain to look for it in any aggregate body composed of such corrupted beings as men. *Virtue* and *greatness* we fear to be almost incompatible in exalted posts; and more particularly so according to the abandoned system of modern politics. In a private station we may repose securely upon the bed of innocence; but from the moment that we embark upon the perilous ocean of public life, the virtue of the most virtuous is in danger.

'It may then be asked, with some appearance of reason, in what consists the difference which is so visible in the characters of different people, and even of the same people, under a different form of government? The answer is plain and easy. It consists in the feelings of the heart—in that noble sentiment of independence which tells the lowest citizen of a free state that he is a man, and as such has an equal claim to the protection of the laws with the proudest and most wealthy of his countrymen.

'Deprive him of this, and his whole nature alters. It matters little by what means the change is produced, whether by the hand of power or by the pressure of poverty and distress. The effect in either case will be similar.

'Examples of this kind may escape the common observer; but to the philosopher, who investigates the springs and motives of human conduct, they appear in all the strong and melancholy features of truth. Behold the man whose arm alone is sufficient to procure him every necessary of life! With what a bold and elevated countenance he looks around him! The smile of content sits light upon his brow.

Digitized by Google

That smile is the characteristic of freedom. It denotes the feelings of a heart which can reply with fearless dignity to the mightiest of mankind, *I am like yourself—a man.* Let us now reverse the picture. Let us reduce the same person to a precarious dependence upon the bounty of others for his daily subsistence. He will no longer be recognisable. Not a feature, not an action, not a word will be the same. The open countenance of conscious honesty has disappeared, and assumed the close and sullen expression of discontent, servility, and despair!

'The history of mankind in every period of the world confirms the truth of this remark. But no instance can be adduced more striking than what may be found in a comparison of the Roman character under the consular and papal government.—And woe to the country where so fatal a metamorphose has taken place! The liberties of that people no longer exist, but on the precarious tenure of their sovereign's discretion.' Vol. ii. p. 355.

The concluding view of the Swiss manners is not sufficiently confined to the proper subject, but filled with German and Italian anecdotes. What have the riches of Nuremburg to do with the history of Switzerland? The account of fools, p. 382, might be greatly enlarged, even under the divisions selected by Mr. Naylor—of professional fools, court fools, and itinerant fools. Our learned author seems mistaken when he supposes that the race of professional fools has expired, as it is still extremely numerous throughout Europe, and constitutes a profession as lucrative as in the times to which he refers with regret.

Upon the whole, we must repeat our observation, that it is to be wished our author had begun with the modern history of Switzerland, in which so much industry and selection would not have been required as are indispensable in compiling the ancient annals of any country. With a little more time and attention, and a due study of the best modern models, it is probable he might greatly improve this work, of which the more interesting topics are already treated with considerable animation.

ART. VIII.—*The Book of Common Prayer, and Administration of the Sacraments and other Rites and Ceremonies of the Church, according to the Use of the United Church of England and Ireland: Together with the Psalter, or Psalms of David, pointed as they are to be sung or said in Churches. Published for John Reeves, Esq.* 12*mo.* 8*s.* 6*d.* Boards. Wright. 1801.

THIS Prayer-book does credit to the royal press. It is dedicated to the queen, and is to be followed by a Bible, now in hand, which, by royal permission, is to be dedicated to the

Digitized by Google

king. The Prayer-book is evidently intended for the superior order of readers, and to them the Introduction will convey a considerable degree of instructive entertainment. It occupies nearly a third part of the whole volume—the remainder containing the usual matter in the Common-Prayer-books in general use; to which however is added the visitation of prisoners, according to the form of the Irish church, and, what ought to be inserted in all prayer-books, the thirty-nine articles of the church of England. We are surprised that in a work of this kind the offices for the ordination of priests and the consecration of bishops should have been omitted; for it seems to us that many pages of the introduction might have been spared for such an insertion, and the work would then have been complete. For common use, we presume it is meant that the introduction should be altogether omitted; and the volume will be then better adapted for the pocket.

In the introduction is given a general history of the Liturgy from the earliest times, together with researches on the dress of the priests, and the hours of offering up prayers in different periods of the church. Our Prayer-book is derived from the Mass-book, as the latter was compiled from older services. There is perhaps some danger lest an unauthorised man should mislead the people in the interpretation of the service; and when it is promulgated with the additional weight of the king's printing house, a greater degree of caution is necessary. We do not find much cause for censure in this respect in the publication before us; yet there are several points we hope to see altered in a future edition. The Athanasian creed has lately been made the occasion of much scandal in the church; it has been attacked by one of our prelates in terms of uncommon asperity, and defended by the university of Oxford with becoming zeal from its pulpit. In such a state of the controversy, the king's printer interposes his judgement in a manner which seems to us above measure jesuitical. He asserts, that 'however agreeable to reason every verse of this creed may be, yet we are not required by the words of the creed to believe the whole on pain of damnation; for all that is required of us is, that we worship one God in Trinity, and Trinity in Unity, neither confounding the persons nor dividing the substance. This is all that is required to be believed. What is brought in proof or illustration of this, which makes the greater part of this famous composition, requires no more our assent than a sermon does which is made to prove or illustrate a text.' To what purpose the writer could make this unwarrantable assertion, we cannot conceive, and the less so as we find in the next sentence these words: 'Such is the character of this creed as far as the twenty-sixth verse,'—thus contending that the portion of the creed which ex-

Digitized by Google

tends from the end of the fourth to the beginning of the twenty-seventh verse no more requires our assent than a sermon. In opposition to this strange and unfounded subterfuge, we beg the writer and our readers to take the trouble of inspecting the creed once more, and examining for themselves the above verses in conjunction with the twenty-seventh verse. The latter contradicts our writer in the plainest terms possible: 'He therefore that will be saved must thus think of the Trinity;' namely, he must think of the Trinity as this creed has declared it in every preceding verse. This mode of frittering away the doctrines of the church, by those who are either appointed to be, or pretend to be, its defenders, is far more dangerous to its real interests than the attacks of its open enemies.

In the account of the communion our author seems to have had his eye fixed rather on the Missal than the Prayer-book; and the grand and important distinction between the two is by no means accurately preserved. In the Romish church we see a priest, an altar, a sacrifice, and incense; all the terms familiar to a sacrifice are employed in that service: in the church of England, instead of an altar, we see a plain table; the word altar is never used either in the rubric or the service—it is called a communion service, and a commemoration of the Lord's supper, and the table is appointed to be either in the body of the church or the chancel. When the English church has taken such pains to distinguish itself from the church of Rome, we cannot approve of any recurrence to popish language by way of explaining any part of our own ritual; and to call the communion table of the English church an altar, is scarcely ever, though the term be figuratively introduced, justifiable. This hint we hope our author will attend to in the future editions of his Introduction. We cannot, moreover, avoid suggesting to those of our readers who may be induced to purchase this edition, that they should consider its Introduction as the work of an unauthorised writer; and consequently, although it be bound up with the Prayer-book, that they should be cautious of receiving any sentiments contained in it with that reverence which is due to the decrees and interpretations of the church itself.

ART. VIII.—*The Beauties of Wiltshire, displayed in statistical, historical, and descriptive Sketches; illustrated by Views of the principal Seats, &c.; with Anecdotes of the Arts.* 2 *Vols.* 8*vo.* 1*l.* 4*s. Boards.* Vernor *and* Hood. 1801.

THE author of this elegant little work is Mr. Britton, who has executed the drawings with great taste, while the engravings are extremely neat and pleasing. We have never seen a to-

Digitized by Google

pographical work assume a more beautiful form; and we hope that the public attention will recompense the writer for his labours.

After a dedication to the earl of Radnor, recorder of the city of Salisbury, we meet with a preface, in which Mr. Britton displays some knowledge of the pen as well as of the pencil.

'The topographer, above all others, should be possessed of undeviating perseverance; for the complete attainment of his object, the perfection of his labours is dependent as much on patient investigation as on the more volatile effusions of the most animated genius. His intellects should be unclouded, his talents pre-eminent, his acquirements universal. He should possess a knowledge of the languages, be familiar with the sciences, and acquainted intimately with history, agriculture, mineralogy, biography, and the belles-lettres. His mind should be enlarged by commerce with the various branches of society, and his judgement endowed with those comprehensive powers which result from the study and comparison of the opinions of every age and of every nation. He should have a taste for the polite arts, and particularly for drawing, which induces new ideas, and quickens the perceptive faculties almost to the creation of a new sense. In short, every exercise by which the moral and physical capabilities of man are invigorated should be familiar to him. Wisdom, and knowledge, and understanding, should be the heralds of his way, and the companions of his lucubrations; and his capacity should be enough enlightened to seise the remote relations of things, and combine them according to times, situations, and circumstances. Possessing these attainments, he should commence his researches with an examination of every promulgated authority. He should investigate deeds, however ancient; and unroll and peruse charters, however worm-eaten. He should compare evidence, where accounts clash; and believe no assertions without demonstrative argument. He should trace the relations of history to the theatres wherein the events were transacted; and compare the records of past ages with existing memorials. No political bias should sway his opinions; no prejudice pervert his judgement. His inquiries should be indefatigable; his studies unremitted. With a mind thus moulded, and industry thus employed, he may presume to hope that the difficulties which the complex nature of the subject entails upon his labours will be successfully terminated.

"What, then," it may be asked, "are you in possession of all these estimable qualifications? Are your talents so superabundant, that after this acknowledgment of the obstacles which impede research, you dare to rush into the world, and call the attention of the public to a work which the concentration of so many qualities is requisite to make perfect?"—'*No; far from it!* I know the limited extent of my own abilities too well to imagine that these imperfect sketches of my native country are of sufficient eminence to justify such an arrogant opinion. The motives which induced me to undertake it will corroborate my assertions.' Vol. i. P. vi.

We love an enthusiast in any science, as, without some de-

Digitized by Google

gree of enthusiasm little progress can ever be attained; but a cold-blooded reader might probably smile at the perfections here expected in a topographer. The author afterwards proceeds to acknowledge his obligations to many respectable characters; and he concludes his preface with an account of Mr. Wyndham's plan for a history of the county.

The work is divided into sections, each comprising some remarkable object; and the general arrangement is not illaudable. They open with some introductory observations on the county at large; after which the other sections are entitled—Old Sarum, Salisbury Cathedral and the Churches and Colleges, Longford Castle, Downton, Clarendon, Bemerton, Wilton, Wilton House, Fonthill, Wardour Castle, &c Those in the second volume relate to Stourhead, Longleat, Warminster, the agriculture of Wiltshire, Salisbury Plain, Stonehenge, Ambresbury, Savernake Forest, Marlborough, Devizes, Newpark, Bowood, Calne, Chippenham, Corsham, Bradford. There are seven plates in the first volume, and nine in the second, with several neat wooden vignettes.

As there is no necessary connexion between the sections, we shall begin with Stonehenge.

'Inigo Jones adopted an hypothesis of its being a temple of the Tuscan order, built by the Romans for the worship of *Cælum* or *Terminus*.

'This idea is opposed by Dr. Charlton, who would fain assign this structure to the Danes; and endeavours to prove that they erected it as a pastime or frolic, during their short-lived triumph over the great Alfred, whilst he was concealed in a cottage, meditating plans to retrieve his fortune. Some writers also of the present day espouse this silly and very improbable notion.

'It is asserted by Aubrey to have been a temple for the Druid worship, and that it was erected at a period long before the arrival of the Romans in Britain.

'Dr. Stukeley followed in the same track, and became a warm advocate for assigning to the Druids the honour of raising Stonehenge. In order to establish this opinion, he allows his mind to range freely through the regions of fancy, and confounds Druidism with the ceremonies of the Pagan sacrifices among the Greeks and Romans.

'With a more sober mind, Mr. Wood, the architect, espouses the same hypothesis.

'The next author who holds this opinion is Dr. Smith, who endeavours to prove that the structure was primarily intended for astronomical observations, as well as religious rites.

'Benjamin Martin, in a publication under the title of the Natural History of Wiltshire, affects greatly to deride all who have given their opinions on Stonehenge; and is particularly severe upon them for supposing the work to be of natural stones, when they appear clearly to him to consist of an artificial composition.

'The next writer that I shall have occasion to notice is Mr. Warl-

Digitized by Google

tire, who, in the year 1792, delivered a lecture on Stonehenge, a few extracts from which will show the futility of chimerical hypothesis, when discoursing on such subjects.

"The name of Stonehenge is Saxon, and means hanging stones. The large stones were brought from the Grey Weathers, on Marlborough Downs, round a circuit of about thirty miles. Some of these stones are of fine granite, some of porphyry, but the largest are of granulated quartz. One of these stones is ninety tons weight; another one hundred tons. The cross stones of the trilithons are of jaspar, foreign granite, and some of bad porphyry. The altar is of porphyry, from the Black Mountain in South Wales: some of the granite has been brought from the Pyrennian Mountains, or Finland, for there is none of the kind in this country. This structure was so contrived, that one person speaking behind the interior altar could be heard distinctly by every person within the outer circle, but a person without that circle could not hear any thing distinctly. It will hold three thousand people, or thereabouts. It is a vast theodolite for observing the motions of the heavenly bodies. It had a meridian line, ten miles in length, at the time of its formation, from which the present meridian line varies forty-seven degrees. The barrows are so placed as to represent the stars, the Pleiades, and other heavenly bodies. Some of them are in a ring, some of which were to represent ancient eclipses in their various gradations, and the small tumuli in these rings always represented the moon. Stonehenge has been a place of worship, and for national assemblies as well as for astronomical observations.

"There are two clayed pits, and two stones near the ditch, to represent the greatest declination of the sun. There is one of the trilithons that answers to the present meridian; and after that others come in, during an immense length of time. By measuring the shadow of the trilithon on the parabolic arch, they were enabled to tell how the year passed, and when it began and ended. There is a stone in the avenue so placed, that the shadow should not appear when the moon was in its greatest altitude; and at other times showed what the deficiency was, agreeably to a very remote period. The times of assembly were the equinoxes and solstices. It was erected before the use of iron was known in this country; the artificers' tools were of flint, some of which were found lately near an adjoining barrow, or *moveable mount*, in which *are the chippings of the stones*. The stones were, as it is supposed, carried by men, and supported on rafts. They were raised by a moveable mount, formed into an inclined plane: that barrow near which the tools were found appears to have been the instrument made use of."

'These extracts will be fully sufficient to convince the reader of the absurdity and imposition of such wild conjectures, which, although calculated "to elevate and surprise" the ignorant, must provoke a smile with the man of erudition.' Vol. ii. p. 119.

But the man of erudition will equally smile at the ridiculous Welsh fables here detailed by Mr. Britton, upon the authority of his friend Mr. Owen. Our author justly ridicules Dr. Stukely, but seems little conscious that Mr. Owen's account is

Digitized by Google

yet more ludicrous. Setting aside this consideration, (and it is not to be supposed that Mr. Britton should be a profound antiquary) the views and little ground-plans seem to be executed with considerable care *. The probability seems now to be admitted that this work was erected by the Belgæ, whose chief town was Old Sarum, and who were a German nation, speaking the German language, and in no wise connected with the Welsh. When our author observes, p. 132, that the inhabitants of Denmark and Sweden have no memorials concerning such remains, he falls into a gross error, for such are familiar to them as ancient seats of judgement, and some were even erected in Iceland in the twelfth century. The Germans, p. 133, call the Italians, and most foreigners, Welsh, just as the word was used in the Anglo-Saxon; but the Wendi do not speak the Welsh, but the Sclavonic; and Mr. Owen shows himself very little qualified even for a slight examination of such a question. Mr. Gibbon has long ago observed concerning the Irish and Welsh antiquaries, that, as their historical records are of little fame or consequence, they eagerly grasp at every fable that can flatter their national vanity. But what delight there can exist in the contemplation of deceiving others, or the vain assumption of plumes which the first breeze of science disperses, is a matter of difficult conjecture to any rational inquirer.

We now return to more pleasing topics. The general view of Wiltshire contained in the first section is too brief, and may admit of great improvements, even on a confined scale. The description of Salisbury cathedral, &c. is rather too much in the manner of the Salisbury Guide. The account of Longford castle is thus introduced.

'The original building was erected by sir Thomas Gorges, and his lady the marchioness dowager of Northampton, in the year 1591, as appears by an inscription of that date over the entrance on the north-west front. It claims our particular attention, not only from the singularity of its architecture, and the rare and valuable collection of original paintings with which it is decorated, but also from the consideration of its being continually visited by the connoisseur

* We cannot, however, assent to Mr. Britton's idea of two small trilithons, and rather suppose that the impost belonged to one trilithon, forming a kind of door to the second circle of stones. We are surprised that no large plan has yet appeared of this singular edifice, in which every individual stone should be numbered, so that an easy reference might be made either in books or by travelers. We would recommend a sheet plan, extending a considerable distance beyond the circle, so as to include the mound which we mentioned on a former occasion, in which, after a recent visit, we gave our opinion at some length. (See Vol. XXX. p. 371.) The flat stone marked D, in Mr. Britton's second plan, we suppose to be the altar, and that marked 17 in his first plan, commonly called the altar, to be the judgement-seat, or throne on which the monarchs sat, as usual in Denmark, Sweden, &c. while the other thirteen inmost stones were for the counsellors of state, judges, or jury. Mr Britton's plans and views, though small, have given us more satisfaction than any that we have yet seen. Rev.

Digitized by Google

and man of taste, who may be gratified by a faithful description of the peculiarities of its structure and beauties of its cabinet. The mansion is situated in a flat but fertile valley, close on the banks of the river Avon, which, contrary to the assertion of Mr. Gilpin, flows through the grounds in a rapid and pellucid stream. It was formerly surrounded by a moat and other military works, and is mentioned in sir Philip Sidney's Arcadia, under the title of Amphiolus's Castle.

'Its form is that of a triangle, inclosing a court of a similar shape, with round towers at the external corners, containing several of the principal apartments. At the internal angles are circular staircases.

'The towers remain nearly the same as when first erected; but the intermediate spaces have been so much altered and modernised as to retain but little appearance of their original shape.

'The north-west front is adorned with a great variety of architectural ornaments, such as caryatides, pilasters, &c.—The south front, composed of tessellated pebbly flint and stone, remains perfect. The towers (the principal one measuring thirty feet diameter in the inside) are surmounted with cannon-shaped chimneys, answering the double purpose of utility and ornament.

'Although this seat is deprived of that mountainous and romantic scenery which is necessary to render a place picturesque or grand, yet there are some prospects surrounding it peculiarly beautiful. To the south, the white tower of Downton church, apparently arising from the midst of a rich grove, forms a pleasing picture, contrasted with the dark purple hue of the woods which clothe the distant hills on the borders of the New Forest. The view, eastward, is bounded by a ridge of Salisbury Plain, on the summit of which a small building rears its solitary head, and commands an extensive view of the surrounding country. To the north-west the spire of Salisbury cathedral, seemingly connected with the park, is seen through a vista of woods, and forms an object of superior beauty to any garden obelisk I ever beheld. The park, though in general flat, has some varieties and swells, which, being judiciously planted, give it a pleasing and sylvan appearance.

'The lady Northampton who first built the house was maid of honour to queen Elizabeth, who then occasionally resided at Clarendon palace, in the vicinity of this estate. In an old plan of this castle the circular room now used as a chapel is called the Queen's bed-chamber, from which circumstance it is concluded that the athletic queen Bess sometimes slept in this apartment.

'It appears, from a letter published by order of the house of commons, that this place, as well as many others in the county, was subjected to the horrors of civil warfare during the troublesome reign of Charles the First. It was garrisoned for the king, but soon obliged to surrender to the daring and successful Cromwell.' Vol. i. p. 96.

In describing the chief houses, Mr. Britton enumerates their most valuable pictures. Wilton House presents a remarkable assemblage of antiquities; but there are many gross errors in

Digitized by Google

the catalogue of paintings in this noble mansion, even as to the sex of the objects; and we remember having seen there a beautiful basso relievo, called, we think, the Head of Britannicus, while the bosom loudly proclaimed it to be a female. When this grand collection was formed, the knowledge of antiquities was very imperfect; and many opinions rashly assumed have continued, for want of more critical examination. It appears, from Mr. Britton's statement, that some of the best paintings of Vandyke preserved at Wilton have been injured by improper modes of cleaning. The noted picture of Richard the Second, supposed to be painted in oil, is critically examined from the report of a Mr. Philips, an artist engaged for some time in the house.

'It is certainly painted in water-colours, on a gilt ground, which is left in a most ingenious manner for the ornaments of the draperies: these ornaments are exceedingly rich and minute. The colours are laid on very thick, with an even and full touch. The arrangement is formal, and the expressions are not at all contrasted; but a placid aspect reigns in every countenance. The drawing is very good, when we consider the early period of its production.

'The artist appears to have proceeded as follows:—He covered his pannel pretty thick with a reddish ground; then gilt the whole, and painted upon that gilding. What remained to relieve the figures is chased in small fret-work, with ornamented lines. The backs of the pannels are also gilt and painted. That on which the king is represented has a white hart with gold horns, collar, and chains, sitting on the ground, relieved from the plain gold; on the other is a coat of arms, party per pale; the dexter side, az.; a cross, patee gu. between three martles, arg.; the sinister side quarterly, first and fourth az.; semé with fleur-de-lis, or; second and third, gu.; three lions passant guardant, or. The crest is too much disfigured to be understood, by the ground having been dissolved.' Vol. i. p. 195.

Mr. Raspe has clearly evinced that oil-painting was known in Italy three or four centuries before the time of Van Eyck.

'Fonthill is supposed to derive its name from *font*, a spring or fountain, and *bill*—an etymology which peculiarly characterises the place. It belonged for several centuries to the ancient family of the Mervins, from whom, through his maternal grandmother, its present possessor is lineally descended.

'There are two regular approaches to the house: one from Salisbury, through the village of Fonthill-Bishop; the other from the south, by Fonthill-Gifford. At the latter place is an inn, where the generality of company leave their carriages and horses while they visit the house.

'As the way to Fonthill is by the public road, Mr. Beckford has neglected to make any exclusive entrance to his place. I approached it from Salisbury; and, on entering the grounds, passed under an arch, with lodges on either side, built after a design of Inigo Jones. From this spot I beheld the north, or principal, front of the house,

Digitized by Google

which forms a grand façade, nearly four hundred feet in length. On the right, and immediately contiguous to the house, rises a knoll, or hill, whose sides and summit are thickly mantled with lofty groves of ancient growth and luxuriant foliage.

'Behind the house, and apparently connected with this side-screen, an undulating belt forms a kind of amphitheatric back ground, and leads the eye to a distant ridge of Salisbury Plain, which terminates the prospect eastward. On the left, a noble river, or lake, expands its pellucid waters, and, after passing the east wing of the house in a gentle curve, seems to lose itself among woody islands.

'The house is built with fine white freestone, obtained from quarreys within half a mile of its site, so that the stoical builder was at little expense either for carriage or materials.

'The centre or body of the house is in the same grand style, and nearly in the same form, as Houghton Hall in Norfolk.

'Two uniform square wings are connected with it by light elliptical colonnades, supported in front by Doric pillars, with a characteristic frieze above the architrave.' Vol. i. p. 210.

Our author afterwards proceeds, as usual, to an account of the pictures; and that of the two famous landscapes by Claude is tolerably ample and satisfactory. In speaking of the grounds, he exposes some gross errors in Mr. Gilpin's picturesque book. Among others, it is not a little curious that this reverend artist, living within thirty miles of Fonthill, should describe a grand bridge as still existing, which has been removed for at least twenty years. We should particularly expect a clergyman to be attentive to veracity.

The second volume opens with a description of Stourhead; but we confess we are fatigued with catalogues of pictures, and shall not much enlarge on the remainder of the work. The description of Salisbury Plain commences in the following manner.

'The distant appearance of this extensive tract of country is that of an immense elevated plain, intersected by deep valleys, and broken into numerous inequalities.

"Such appears the spacious plain
Of Sarum, spread like Ocean's boundless round,
Where solitary Stonehenge, grey with moss,
Ruin of ages, nods."——— DYER'S FLEECE.

'Mr. Gilpin has beautifully illustrated this idea of the poet. He observes, that "the ground is indeed spread like the ocean; but it is like the ocean after a storm; it is continually heaving in large swells." The abrupt boldness and rotundity of the hills may well justify the classic metonymy of the ground heaving into billows; but some other parts of this gentleman's description do not so happily coincide with truth and accuracy. For instance:

"Though Salisbury Plain, in Druid times, was probably a very busy scene, we now find it wholly uninhabited. Through all this vast district scarce a *cottage*, or even a *bush*, appears. *Here* and *there*

Digitized by Google

we meet a *flock* of *sheep* scattered over the side of some rising ground, and a shepherd with his dog attending them; or perhaps we may descry some solitary waggon winding round a distant hill. But the only *resident* inhabitant of this *vast waste* is the bustard.

"It extends many miles in all directions, in some not less than *fifty*. An eye unversed in these objects is filled with astonishment in viewing *waste* after *waste*, rising out of each new horizon."

'Such a train of inaccuracies were hardly ever presented to the world in so rapid a succession. The Plain, instead of being wholly uninhabited, is interspersed with a multitude of villages. Wherever there is a valley intersected with a stream of water, there we are almost sure of finding a number of inhabitants. Neither is this *vast waste* so destitute of wood as the foregoing statement would lead us to imagine. The numerous dips and *bourns* are generally overspread with fine trees, many of which are so thickly clustered on the banks of mæandering rivulets, and assume such a variety of graceful forms, that I am astonished they should have escaped the observation of this essayist on picturesque beauty. The remarks in the quoted passages appear to have been derived from the opinions of the ignorant, instead of being the emanations of his own mind. The Plain does not extend in *any* direction to the length of fifty miles: the common maps would have given better information.

'It is of importance to contradict these assertions, because, from the known celebrity of Mr. Gilpin, a greater degree of credit is attached to his representations than would be given to the more accurate statements of an obscure writer. When, in addition to the above remarks, he informs us that "these regions have come down to us *rude* and *untouched* from the beginning of time;" what other idea can be excited than that of sterility and desolation? What opinion can we form on the state of these wide-spreading plains, than that of their being bleak, barren, and inhospitable? Reader, the idea would be false; the opinion would be absurd. The busy hand of man is apparent in the cultivation of many thousand acres; and, like the industrious bee, he has built him a hive in every dell. The *solitary* shepherd, and the sheep *here and there* scattered over the side of a hill, would induce us to suppose they were but few in number; yet the quantity of these useful animals gathering sustenance on the Downs is assuredly not *less* than *half a million!*

'It is unpleasant to comment on the errors of a popular writer; neither should I have done it, but from a reason of much more consequence than the one already mentioned. In an age when the *cultivation* of *waste lands* forms a principal topic of conversation, from the variety of interests involved in the discussion, it becomes a matter of infinite importance to ascertain correctly what lands *are waste*, and what are not, though *apparently* they may be. The observations of Mr. Gilpin are only calculated to mislead: a superficial inquirer, from deference to the general credibility of that gentleman's testimony, would consider the Wiltshire Downs as an absolute desert, wholly uncultivated, and entirely useless;—a more erroneous conception could never enter the head of a human being, subject as he is to mistake and absurdity.' Vol. ii. p. 65.

Digitized by Google

At the present day we feel within ourselves no great veneration for the picturesque, and would not exchange a field of wheat for all the beauties of barrenness.

Stonehenge we have already mentioned, and Amesbury is of little consequence; but we must present a short extract from the account of Savernake Forest.

'It is the property of the earl of Aylesbury, and the only one in this country belonging to a subject. It is profusely wooded, and abundantly stocked with red and fallow deer, nearly two thousand being generally kept at one time in the forest and adjoining park of Tottenham, both of which include a space of ground nearly sixteen miles in circumference. The forest is intersected with a great number of walks and avenues, cut through its umbrageous woods and coppices: eight of these, like the rays of a star, concentrate in a spacious opening in the middle of the forest, where the late earl intended to erect an octagon tower, whose sides should correspond with the entrances to each vista.

'Mr. Gilpin, in a tone of regret, says, "that the vestiges of most of our English forests are obliterated;"—of "sylvan honours, scarcely any of them have the least remains to boast." This cannot apply to the forest of Savernake, the scenery of which is peculiarly fine, and cannot but be highly interesting to the painter, who may here discover many of those subjects and effects which were so enchanting to the eyes of a Gainsborough and a Wilson. The numerous herds of bounding deer, the prancing horse and ragged colt, whose untutored manes flutter on the pinions of the breeze, the moss-grown venerable oak, the solemn beech, and the taper pine, unite to constitute it a scene truly picturesque, and might well give inspiration to the poet who delights in—artless nature.

——"Majestic SAVERNAKE
Raises his wood-crown'd brow; prospect sublime!
Whether yon stately oaks and slender pines,
In well-plann'd order plac'd, attract the sight;
Or, o'er the smooth-shorn plain, we turn our eye
Beneath th' embow'ring shade, the lordly stag
And bounding hind repose, devoid of fear;
Around, their dappled young, in sportive play
Wanton, and chace each other through the grove.
From tree to tree the nimble squirrel springs;
The blackbird shrill, and sweetly warbling thrush,
With echoing notes made the wide forest ring."

'*Greensted's Fugitive Pieces.*

'Many of the oaks in this forest are exceedingly large and majestic. The branches of one, called by way of pre-eminence the *King oak*, are as large in girt as the boles of many full-sized trees. The ground they overspread is upwards of fifty yards in diameter.

'The forest of Savernake, with the manor of Barton-cum-Marlborough, and other estates adjoining, were formerly assigned as part of the jointure of the queen consort of England, particularly of Eleanor wife of king Edward the Third. Among the earl of

Digitized by Google

Aylesbury's writings relating to the forest are several warrants to the keepers, signed by her highness, in a very fine hand, for the delivery of venison.

'Savernake forest came into the possession of the Bruce family through the marriage of Thomas lord Bruce, afterwards earl of Aylesbury, with lady Anne Seymour, the daughter of Henry lord Beauchamp, the sister and heir of William Seymour duke of Somerset, sixth in descent from the protector, in the year 1676.' Vol. ii. p. 159.

We believe we have now enabled the reader to form a tolerable judgement of these volumes, which produce a pleasing accession to English topography.

ART. IX.—*The Tragedies and Poems of Frederic Earl of Carlisle.* 8vo. 7s. 6d. *Boards.* Wright. 1801.

BY submitting this volume to the public inspection, the noble author foregoes the privileges of the peerage, and becomes a citizen of the republic of letters, which banishes from its constitution all regard to distinction of birth, and gives to a plebeian critic to arraign, if it should be found necessary, a member of the upper house of high crimes and misdemeanours against the laws of true taste and elegant composition.

The tragedies contained in this volume are two in number; the first entitled, The Father's Revenge; the second, The Step-Mother.

The story of the Father's Revenge is borrowed from the well known tale of Tancred and Sigismunda, as related by Bocaccio and Dryden. In filling up the outline of the plot however, and in the delineation of dramatic characters, it is obvious much scope is left for the exertion of genius.

The tragedy opens with a procession of monks, headed by the archbishop of Salerno, brother to Tancred king of Sicily, who pauses to communicate to Anselmo the horrors of a vision which had disturbed his slumbers during the course of the preceding night.

'Anselmo, mark my words, and I beseech thee,
Think not 'twas dotage wove this airy vision.
A thousand footsteps seem'd in haste to pass
Close by my chamber door:—strange whisperings—
Then horrid shrieks: and some, methought, did laugh,
But with a mirth so terrible, the groans
Which follow'd e'en gave respite to my fears.
A hollow voice upon my brother call'd,
And, in the tumult, Sigismonda's name
Struck on my ear. I started from my bed,

Digitized by Google

And, by a hand invisible impell'd,
Through these lone mansions of the dead, survey'd
That royal tomb, exposing, in sad show,
The nauseous remnants of all worldly grandeur,
And gaping wide in sad expectancy
Of some new victim from our falling house.—
—Hadst thou, Anselmo, in that hour beheld me
Sinking to earth, thou surely would'st have deem'd
Some foul and secret guilt had bade these terrors
Brood o'er my sleepless head.' P. 11.

The ill omened reflexions of the archbishop are interrupted by the annunciation of the arrival of Manfred, prince of Benevento, from a successful expedition against the pagans. Manfred next enters to view with Guiscard, a youth intrusted to him by Tancred, to be instructed in the military art. In the following dialogue between these warriors, the character of Tancred is opened, and the plot begins to unfold itself.

'*Guisc.* 'Tis said, that Nature has not form'd the heart
Of Tancred of her softest clay; in me
Behold an instance of his clemency.
Where Reggio's rocky cliffs the surge defy,
There was I found, inhumanly exposed,
(By whom, and whence, uncertain) there I lay
An infant helpless, in my cradle pent,
Left to the mercy of a rising sea.
'Twas in that season, in this perilous state,
Tancred espied me as he chanc'd to pass,
Just as the favouring tide, by Heaven directed,
Heaved me on shore. My plaintive cries so moved
Salerno's prince, that carefully, in his robe,
He wrapt me round, and bore me to his palace;
Where, from that moment, I have ever shared
His fatherly affection.
'*Manf.* 'Tis most strange,
That on thy head the shower of Tancred's kindness
Should all be spent, and not a stream of pity
Left to assuage his people's sufferings;
That he, accustom'd to the piercing shrieks
Of tortured criminals, should turn aside
To thee, and let thy childish eloquence
Invade a breast so fenced against compassion.
'*Guisc.* Imperious in his nature, wrong'd by those
Whom he most trusts, instructed from his youth
To esteem the people but as instruments
Of his ambition or capricious will,
Yet, sir, believe me, Tancred still has virtues,
Which might in public blaze, but are obscured
By the dim clouds of passion that eclipse them,
And intercept their lustre from mankind.

Digitized by Google

'*Manf.* 'Tis true, indeed, he rears that tender plant,
His beauteous daughter, with unwearied care,
In spotless innocence and purest virtue;
Ne'er has he suffer'd the infectious gale
Of vice to breathe upon her tender ear:
In this he shows a softness in his nature
That almost blunts the dart of accusation.
'*Guisc.* Named you his daughter, lovely Sigismonda?
O! I have seen him sit and gaze upon her,
Till down his manly cheeks the scorching tears
Have flow'd so fast, that on his iron corselet
Were mark'd their rusty channels. Innocence
Like her's is watch'd by all the host of angels,
The fiends of this licentious court obey
The fascination of her eyes, though meek
As gentle Mercy's at the throne of Heaven.
'*Manf.* And the soft graces of her outward form
Keep equal pace with all her soul's perfections.
'*Guisc.* The amorous winds, sure, never in their sport
From such a forehead stirr'd the waving tresses,
To give more beauty to the gazing world.
'*Manf.* But you, my Guiscard, witness to the spring
When first these beauties budded to the morn,
Arm'd with its gentler warmth and gradual fires,
Faint not like those that feel the summer's gleam.
'*Guisc.* [*aside.*] Ah! that in truth it were so!—But behold
The minister of Tancred, with his train.' P. 20.

The first act closes with a petition from an aged captive to Guiscard, desiring him to use his influence with Tancred to obtain his liberty. In the commencement of the second act, we have the meeting of Tancred and the victorious crusaders. They are soon joined by Sigismunda, the daughter of Tancred, who, at the sight of Guiscard, evinces those tender emotions which may easily be conceived to proceed from her having long returned his affection in secret. In the progress of this act, Monforti, the prime-minister of Tancred, thus confers with Raimond on the subject of a conspiracy he has formed against his master's life.

'*Monf.* Hast thou, throughout this murmuring city, spread
The hopes of vengeance, and redress of wrongs?
'*Raim.* The leafless oak, crumbling to dust with age,
Fires not so quickly in the lightning's course
As our brave citizens, whene'er I point
The path to great revenge.
'*Monf.* Say, hast thou ventured
To hint that I partake their just resentments,
Approve their rage, and weep at their oppression?
'*Raim.* I even whisper'd you would not be wanting
To guide them through the danger.'

Digitized by Google

'*Monf.* The gull'd fools
Believe I love them. They are, indeed, the waves,
And, while they bear us, we must court their favour,
Until we gain the port: unheeded then,
To the wide ocean they again may flow,
Lost and forgotten 'midst their kindred waters.' P. 37.

In the last scene of the present act, Guiscard and Sigismunda renew their vows of love; but the transport of their affection is, in some measure, damped by the gloomy presages which arise in the mind of the princess.

'*Sigis.* Guiscard, my boding heart
Informs me—but ere long dread certainty
Will take the place of miserable doubt;
Till then be patient.—Soon, I fear, the sun
Of all our happiness must set for ever!' P. 47.

Guiscard now applies to Tancred in behalf of the aged captive, but meets with a harsh repulse. The Sicilian king is reproved for his cruelty by his brother the archbishop, who informs him of the conspiracy framed by Monforti against his life. The bold and confident spirit of Tancred induces him to disbelieve the information. In the ensuing scene Guiscard relates to Hassan the ill success of his petition to the cruel monarch, in the answer to which relation it is discovered that Hassan is Guiscard's father.

Manfred next communicates to Guiscard the intention of Tancred to bestow upon him (Manfred) the hand of Sigismunda and the inheritance of his kingdom. When, however, he finds that the affections of his intended bride are engaged to Guiscard, he generously resigns his pretensions in behalf of his friend. In an interview with Sigismunda, Guiscard persuades her privately to marry him, and intimates his intention of accompanying her immediately afterwards to the dominions of Manfred, who has offered him an asylum and protection against the wrath of Tancred. The lovers repair to a retired part of the castle, where a friar waits to perform the nuptial ceremony. This is scarcely concluded, when Tancred, who had been apprised that this was the rendezvous of the conspirators, arrives at the spot and arrests the friar, who, in the agitation of fear, informs him of the union of his daughter with Guiscard. This information fills the Sicilian prince with extreme fury, and he bursts abruptly upon the newly-united pair. The interview which follows gives rise to a very interesting scene, which we wish our limits would permit us to insert. The opening of the fifth act discovers Guiscard and Hassan in the dungeon of a prison, and, in mutual comfort and exhortation, preparing themselves for their approaching fate. A band of ruffians now enter, and convey Guiscard into some remote recesses of the cavern.

Digitized by Google

After a short intervening scene, Tancred appears before his daughter with a vase in his hand, and the drama thus proceeds:

'*Tanc.* All void the chamber—leave us to be private.
'*Sigis.* Low at your feet see Sigismonda falls!—
No hand is stretch'd to raise her from the dust,—
No glance, inspiring confidence!—Alas!—
He heeds me not—
'*Tanc.* Let none approach our presence.
'*Sigis.* Then must thy daughter grow for ever here!
'*Tanc.* Rise; these are idle forms, mere mockeries;
They please me not. What boots the bended knee,
When the proud stubborn heart derides such crouchings?
Behold this vase!
'*Sigis.* I know its dreadful import,
'*Tanc.* Alas! alas, thou know its import!—thou!
The babe of ease and joy!—Leave those who've press'd
The milkless breast of want, who have been scared,
On the first step of life, with famine, war,
The gangrened plague, or massacre; leave those,
With all their skill in horrors, to divine
Its foul contents—But thou—
'*Sigis.* I know 'tis poison;
A welcome present, worthy of my father.
You tremble; give it to my steadier hand.
'*Tanc.* No, let it rest awhile.—[*Places it on a table.*]—Now hear me, daughter,
Thou dost not, sure, forget that horrid night,
When, circled in these arms, you watch'd in silence
Your mother's parting breath: the expiring saint,
Fixing her eyes on thee, thus faintly cried,
Almighty Powers! preserve yon blooming infant,
Make her the comfort of her father's age,
Nurse of his sickness, pleasure of his health;
And, ere she swerve from Virtue's arduous path,
Take her, O! take her, pure and innocent,
To your immortal selves!
Short-sighted state of man, unjust and vain
In all his reasonings!—if death had hasten'd
His well-timed course, to save thee from this ruin,
Still I had wept; with partial cruelty
Had tax'd high Heaven—perhaps, had follow'd thee
To the cold grave, in the fond doating error
Of thy bright excellence, that fence impregnable
'Gainst wantonness and vice.
'*Sigis.* Tancred, I make
No empty vaunt; I boast not, that, since first
This tongue knew utterance, this brain conception,
This bosom sense and feeling, I have lov'd thee
Beyond a father's poor prerogative,
Or the cold tribute of a daughter's duty.—

Digitized by Google

My mother's prayer was heard; she pray'd that Virtue
Should point my dubious way. 'Twas by that light
I steer'd; and fix'd on that, on that alone,
I found it led to Guiscard, and to truth.—
This to his manes! [*seising the vase.*

'*Tanc.* O!—yet hold, my daughter.

'*Sigis.* Idle delay:—the drug may lose its force.

'*Tanc.* Art thou prepared to view—

'*Sigis.* Speak—what?—[*she removes the lid.*] O! horror!
What's this that meets my eyes?

'*Tanc.* Thy husband's heart—
His rebel blood—my exquisite revenge.——
Dost thou approve the gift?

'*Sigis.* [*After a long struggle to speak.*] I now have strength
To thank you as I ought!—Do I approve it?—
Thou true, thou honest heart! O sad, O poor
Remains of all my soul held dear! thus, thus
I press thee to this throbbing breast!

'*Tanc.* [*aside.*] I fear
I've gone too far—behold how eagerly
She grasps the fatal cup.—Forbear, my child,
Forbear.

'*Sigis.* I am conversing with the dead,
And must not be disturb'd.—Alas! poor heart,
And wilt thou ever sleep inanimate
Within thy narrow sepulchre!—Vain shadow
Of that which once was Guiscard! where are all
Thy fine sensations—thy tumultuous pulse?
Spark of ethereal fire, how art thou quench'd!
Region of honour, courage, truth, and love,
All, all laid waste!—'Tis strange I am not mad;
Perhaps I shall not be.—It matters not,
For the short space that's left me.—For, there's something
That from within whispers my quick releasement.
Methinks I feel like one worn out with age,
Tottering, and weak,—though; at the evening bell,
(And night's not fallen yet) I had the nerves
Of playful youth.

'*Tanc.* [*half aside.*] O! my lost child, too late,
Too late, alas! I wish the deed undone.—
Resign the cup—it is a sight too horrible
For mortal vision.

'*Sigis.* Never but with life.—
Swear that no ruffian force shall tear it from me.
But let it thus be lock'd in my embrace,
The partner of my grave! To heaven I'll bear it
With me, the passport to eternal peace!

'*Tanc.* Who talks of peace and heaven!—O damning guilt!
O sharp remorse! the sounds of peace and heaven
Harrow my soul with fears:—and, to complete
My woes, thou'rt ready with thy dying curse.

Digitized by Google

'*Sigis.* I pray come nearer to me.—Thus I curse thee—
[*embracing him.*
Thus, on thy neck, pour forth the only tears
I've shed in all my grief.—Horror, before,
Dried up their source.
'*Tanc.* And can those injured hands,
That should have sent a poniard to my bosom,
Entwine me thus within them?—I, all stain'd
With blood—ah! and whose blood!
'*Sigis.* That's true: impure [*starting from him.*
Is thy embrace, and 'tis an impious deed
To approach my husband's murderer. Let me hence.' P. 114.

The death of Sigismunda, and the agonising remorse of Tancred, close the melancholy tale.

In the construction of the fable of the Step-Mother, the noble author informs us that he had no recourse to the records of history, or to the invention of contemporary writers. The plot of this drama is well arranged, and the story is interesting. It exhibits the revengeful artifices of the countess Casimir, by which she takes advantage of the illicit love of her husband for Louisa, who is betrothed to Frederic, his son by a former wife, to induce the son to slay his own father. This event constitutes the catastrophe of the drama. The character of the countess strongly reminds us of lady Macbeth; and we are also reminded of the same pure fountain of dramatic writing by the machinery of aërial beings, who prompt the count to the execution of his villanous designs against the virtue of Louisa. We cannot, however, but think the introduction of the machinery unnecessary, as the operation of evil passions, which had been long and habitually indulged, is sufficient to account for all the atrocities introduced. To the intermixture of characters approaching the comic, in the course of a tragedy, we do not object, provided such intermixture be not too copious; and we think his lordship has been sufficiently temperate in this respect, and that they do not obtrude too frequently upon the scene. As an additional specimen of the noble earl's dramatic style, we would willingly transcribe at length the first scene of the third act, which appears to be written with considerable spirit; but we have only room for a part of it. The reader will observe that the wrath of the countess is roused by the fraudulent inspection of her husband's will, by the tenor of which, in case she survived him, she would be reduced from princely affluence to a state of comparative poverty.

'ACT III.

'*Scene I.—The Countess's Apartment.*

'*Countess.* [*alone.*] Had he but cast into my drinking-cup
The deadly nightshade—had he but let out,

Digitized by Google

With his avenging sword, my heart's warm blood,
And so at once had crush'd his enemy—
Might well, when nature pleaded for itself,
Admit of pardon. But, rotting in the tomb,
And, when the glorious sense of great revenge
Was felt no more—to rob me from the grave—
To subject me to pain—'midst provinces,
Abundant farms, and populous cities,
All which I gave; to make me crouch in the hut
Of beggary, a mendicant's asylum—
And, when his shrouded eyes no more could feast
With execrable joy on the oppression,
Still to oppress—O this dissolves all ties!
Makes vengeance righteous!—Now, lord Casimir,
It is become a striving race between us:
One, and one only, can enjoy the prize;
That prize is life;—and death must have a victim!

'*Enter Lord Henry.*

'*Countess.* Welcome, lord Henry! Since the fresh coming
Of our new guests, say, what has thy keen search
Collected for our use? Know, circumstances,
That, single, trifling seem, together heap'd,
Become a mass for notice.

'*Hen.* In that spot,
Where we all met this morning, you'll believe
The observer glean'd but little.—'Twas a scene
To raise one's mirth.—Mark'd you your husband's joy,
How real, how sincere? All the hasty questions,
That saved the answerer's breath? Can you divine,
Why Frederick's presence could be well dispensed with?

'*Countess.* The parent's hate of every thing allied
To virtue or fair conduct conjures up
A stern upbraider of his life, in all
Who wallow not in his polluted litter:
And in this son he views a censurer
Of all his actions. Where is then the wonder
His absence had been pardon'd?

'*Hen.* Something yet
Remains to be explain'd. Late, I've remark'd
The various altars, which your lord had raised
Around this place to wild unlicensed love,
All have been neglected—No presents now,
In secret, are dispatch'd, as formerly,
Each morning to the city. What's more—safely
The village beauty meets him in her path;
Nor has, some nine months after, to deplore
She took that dang'rous road. This sudden change
I've well observed. Say, have you not suspected
Some new attraction draws him from his haunts?

'*Countess.* If I esteem'd him, then, perchance, I could
Be jealous for his honour, and be studious

Digitized by Google

To hide such brutish weakness from the world;
Or if the trembling flame of foolish fondness
Still warm'd this injured heart; why then, indeed,
I might employ a leisure hour to note
The fleeting, quick succession of my rivals!
Where no affection warms the lifeless soil,
How can the roots of jealousy be cherish'd?' P. 181.

We can truly commend the judgement displayed by the noble earl in the arrangement of these plots; but he, nevertheless, appears to us to want the faculty of drawing that decided and clear outline which is requisite to the successful delineation of dramatic character. In Tancred and the countess Casimir we find distinct and determinate features; but his lovers, and especially his heroines, are those of every play, and almost of every novel. The reader is accordingly more interested by the various incidents that attend them, than by their characteristic conduct and language; and he will too frequently be reminded of the unlucky motto, *Volo, non valeo*, attached to the emblazonment of his lordship's arms, which are introduced as a kind of vignette to the present volume. The style of the noble dramatist is somewhat too ornamented; but his metaphors and allusions, individually considered, are generally correct and just.

The poems which close this volume are few and short: they evince, however, a feeling heart and a polished mind. We shall close our observations by extracting the following verses.

'*On Occasion of a Friend's contending for Beauty, and Beauty alone.*

'A noisy laughing Cupid I detest;
Give me the Boy with look intent,
Big with grave care, as though he meant
Some mighty work, when he besieged my breast.

'Not, that a whining love has charms for me;
Yet there's a tenderness that wears
A serious robe, and drinks the tears
Soft gushing from the eye of Sympathy.

'The charitable gift, the pitying hand,
The soul that melts at sight of woe,
Strike on the breast the hardest blow,
And join esteem to Passion's looser band.

'Hence true affection, hence refined desire,
Feel their full right to nobler joy,
To bliss that is too dear to cloy,
For it is purified by Reason's fire.

'Lovely thy nymph! but will she e'er incline
O'er the sick bed or sorrow's chair?
O! light and giddy, would she bear
One sober flower in Pleasure's wreath to twine?

Digitized by Google

'If, by the moon, through silent groves ye go,
'Midst scenes which Nature forms for love,
Where does her restless fancy rove?
To riot, fashion, and the public show.

'If, on the roaring beach ye take your way,
Fears she, for foundering barks, the storm?
O no! she sighs, so fair a form
Is not reflected in so rude a sea.

'But is there one would joy with thee to seek
The widow's shed, the labourer's door,
Forget her lover for the poor,
Nor know thou'rt near when age and sickness speak?

'Should'st thou officious point the lucky aid,
Quick draw thee to her generous breast
With firmer clasp; then, if possess'd
Of worlds,—those worlds should at her feet be laid.

'Such is the Fair that claims my friend's pursuit:
Leave *perfect charms* to others' choice,
Attend no more to Passion's voice,
But gather thus from love its sweetest fruit.' P. 191.

ART. X.—*Synoptic Tables of Chemistry, intended to serve as a Summary of the Lectures delivered on that Science in the Public Schools at Paris. By A. F. Fourcroy, Member of the National Institute of France, &c. Translated from the original French, by William Nicholson. Atlas Folio.* Cadell *and* Davies. 1*l.* 1*s. Boards.* 1801.

CHEMISTRY was for a series of ages an unconnected mass of experiments and facts, without any union but the very loose one of Natural History, or of the more obvious properties of different bodies. In the hands of Stahl, assisted by the celebrated principle of Becher's phlogiston, it began to assume the form of a science. In the bold philosophical outline offered to his pupils by Dr. Cullen, it obtained a still more scientific form, which was greatly improved by Dr. Black, assisted in some measure by his new definition of chemistry. It was however supposed that the facts were too numerous, and still not sufficiently connected by any principle to enable chemistry to be resolved into general doctrines, till the publication of the Philosophy of Chemistry by our author. In this, as he justly observes in the preface to the Tables, individual substances or their properties are scarcely mentioned, but as examples of a class, or at least a genus; yet, perhaps, with the pervading principle of phlogiston, admitted by Trommsdorf in his late Manual as a term only, the Philosophy of Chemistry in the hands of Dr.

Digitized by Google

Black was not greatly inferior to that we have received from the present author. It is not indeed contended that the facts are equally numerous or important; but if principles be properly established, they will extend to new discoveries, whatever may be their amount. Thus, if we present clear and distinct ideas of earths, it is of little consequence whether we be merely acquainted with the four kinds formerly understood, or add the barytes, strontian, glucine, zircone, and agustine, of modern writers.

As chemistry has however advanced so far, that we are enabled to give with advantage the abstract of its doctrines in the general view of a philosophical system, so the facts are ascertained with such clearness and discrimination that they can be arranged in the most convenient form—that of tables. The work before us is therefore most properly considered as a continuation of the Philosophy of Chemistry; and, together, they afford a complete abstract of the science. We say *complete*, chiefly with a view to the time of their publication; for a science so rapidly advancing can never be detailed perfectly, but at the moment of its publication. Some of these deficiencies we shall notice as we proceed; and we could have wished that Mr. Nicholson had stepped beyond his task of a translator, to have supplied the most obvious defects. M. Fourcroy's own account of his work we shall select.

'In the Philosophy of Chemistry my aim was to present, in the form of axioms, and as primitive and fundamental truths, the most general facts of the science, the most extended phænomena;—those which, in their vast totality, embrace the events that befal all natural bodies, considered with regard to their alterations and mutual energies.—In that work it was my intention to offer, to the contemplation of studious men, the first abstract elements of chemistry; and it is nearly independent of each individual or particular body that those philosophical and elementary notions were conceived and drawn up. They can be applied only to the classes, or, at most, to the genera of bodies; and though in some instances they are applied to certain particular substances, yet, in such cases, the substance itself is considered as representing an entire class of bodies, and as possessing an influence, with regard to the proper knowledge of its habitudes, upon the knowledge of those of many other bodies.

'The Tables which I now present to the world, as forming the true continuation of the Philosophy of Chemistry, are constructed in another manner and directed to another object. They contain the properties of bodies in particular; they present the applications of general principles, or of the philosophy of the science, to the study of the productions of nature and of art. They present the development of these principles as to what may be termed the individual chemistry of bodies; and though the number of tables amounts to only twelve, they will be sufficient to direct the student through the

Digitized by Google

whole chain of chemical phænomena which are observed in all the substances comprehended under the dominion of nature.' P. 3.

'I have confined them to the number of twelve, that I might present a more condensed sketch, and, in some measure, render more permanent the basis of the methodical division which I have adopted for the study of the chemical properties of bodies. Though I have presented the chief individual properties and the most striking specific characters of each, I have been more particularly desirous of exhibiting the relations of those properties, and the comparisons which may be established between them—in a word, the relative disposition of those bodies, their classification from their properties, the possibility of exhibiting these, and delineating their general history, by the methodical exposition of their nature and attractions;—these are the views which have dictated the present Tables.' P. 3.

The language of these passages is peculiarly harsh in many parts, and almost unintelligible. It is the great fault of the author; and perhaps Mr. Nicholson had done better to have given the idea in his own words. 'Which in their *vast totality* embrace the events which *befal* all natural bodies,' &c. would then have been, 'Which completely comprehend all the states in which natural bodies are found, either in consequence of their mutual actions, or other causes?'—*et sic de cæteris.*

The first table considers the generalities of the science, and its divisions, as its objects are directed to different purposes. This table we consider as unimportant, and indeed no part of the author's plan, which is to detail the particularities of the science. What relates to medical chemistry is scarcely more valuable than the rest. The second table contains the undecomposed bodies, and the same bodies when burnt or united with oxygen. Light, caloric, oxygen, and azote, are of the first kind, arranged in the order of their general dispersion or abundance: the others, hydrogen, carbone, phosphorus, diamond, and metals, in that of their combustibility. Perhaps the diamond should not have been separated from carbone, as the affinity is nearer and more natural. The burned bodies, the series of oxyds and acids, are arranged according to their affinity to the burning principle and the difficulty of decomposing them. Water, in this series, is the oxyd of hydrogen. Arsenic, tungstein, molybdæna, and chrome, are the metallic acids particularly mentioned. We begin now to perceive the nature of the muriatic; but we have only a glance of it, from being able to convert the nitrous into the muriatic. This however occurred after the publication of these tables. If Berthollet's discovery of gas-hydrogen sulphur, as an acidifying principle, be confirmed—and on Berthollet's accuracy we place considerable reliance—it will materially change the whole of this table.

Digitized by Google

Earths and alkalies hold the first place in the third table. The most decidedly earthy bodies are placed first, and then those which approach to an alkaline nature; thus, silex, alumine, glucine, and zircone. Magnesia and lime are sub-alkaline earths. Barytes, pot-ash, soda, strontian, and ammonia, follow. Barytes and strontian are thus taken from the earths, on account of their decided alkaline qualities. In the remainder of the third, in the fourth, and fifth tables, are the salts, classed from their most distinguished chemical qualities. The species now amount to more than one hundred. It is justly remarked, that their classification and relative disposition comprehend their most useful properties, and, with their nomenclature, furnish the greater part of their chemical history.

The sixth table exhibits the general properties of metallic substances. The seventh, eighth, ninth, and tenth, give an account of particular metals, under the distinct heads of physical properties,—natural history, assay and metallurgy, oxydability by air, union with combustibles, action upon water, the oxyds and the acids, action on the salifiable bases and the salts—uses. The acid metals are first mentioned; next the titanite, uranite, and cobalt. In the next table are comprised nickel, manganese, bismuth, antimony, tellurium, and mercury. In the ninth, zinc, tin, lead, and iron. In the tenth, copper, silver, gold, and platina.

The two last tables relate to vegetable and animal chemistry; but it is only an outline, and many deficiencies are observable in each. These we should point out, could we present the table in its proper form; but our remarks are so much connected with the arrangement, that they would not be otherwise understood. As the author seems aware also of their imperfections, and has promised to supply them in additional tables, any pointed animadversions would be improper.

On the whole, we think these tables highly valuable and important to the student of chemistry, and useful, as a work of reference, to the more experienced artist. Mr. Nicholson has conferred a considerable obligation on English philosophers by this translation; and if we recollect that he might have done more, we should still be grateful that he has done so much.

ART. XI.—*Bread; or, The Poor: a Poem. With Notes and Illustrations. By Mr. Pratt, Author of Sympathy, &c.* 4to. 7s. *sewed.* Longman *and* Rees. 1801.

A SUDDEN revolution, the most dire, perhaps, of any in this revolutionary age, has taken place in the state of the poor.—Pro-

Digitized by Google

gressive improvements have been made in agriculture, the benefits of which are almost entirely lost to the most numerous and useful part of the community, while individuals only have been enriched. The poor-rates have in the mean time increased, to the dissatisfaction of the rich, and nearly to the ruin of the middle classes; while the wants and miseries of the peasantry, with some few exceptions, which will be particularised, have accumulated in the proportion that plans have been formed for their relief. This argues a very wrong policy and management somewhere.—In the midst of a long and afflictive illness, the author has spared no pains to trace the effects of this deep national grievance to its sources; and he is told by those who, by their situation and circumstances, are allowed to be most competent to the subject, that he has so done in the following pages, in which, however, there is no one passage founded upon a fiction;—of course the poem is excluded from one of the grand privileges of poesy.

'Yet, in lieu of this, the author is but too strong in facts. He has taken the country for the last and present summers, in almost every direction of the island, as well for the purposes of health as of investigation. According to his usual habits of travel, he has entered the field, the farm, and the cottage; not hastily, but to pause, to inquire, and to contemplate the general plenty of the one and the general poverty of the other. He has sat himself down amongst the peasantry, not to augment their sufferings nor to foment their discords, but to discover, by diligent research and silent reflexion, what could be the causes, and what were the real effects of famine in the land.' P. i.

The poem which Mr. Pratt has produced upon this subject is divided into three parts. In the first he describes the situation of the cottage-poor previous to the causes of their decay. We are often here reminded of Goldmith, an author whom it is dangerous to follow.

'All day they toil'd; at eve new labours press'd,
For then their little garden grounds were dress'd;
Scanty and narrow scraps of earth, 'tis true,
Yet there their comforts, there their treasures grew:
The white rose and the red, and pink so sweet,
Herbs for each day, and fruit for sabbath treat:
The currant-bush, and gooseberry so fine,
Affording summer fruit, and winter wine;
The cooling apple, too, and grateful pear,
And pea, for beauty and for use, were there;
And formal box, and bloomy thrift were seen,
Bord'ring the flow'r-bed and the path-way green;
And elder-flowers, to make fair maids more fair,
The glossy berry, still the matron's care,
In dark drear nights to give, when spirits fail,
A cheerful drop to thaw the gossip's tale,
When ghosts have ic'd the blood of youth and age,
Who with a thousand goblins would engage,

Digitized by Google

And boldly bid them stalk from where they lurk,
When once the charmed cup begins to work;
'Till those who had aver'd the flame glar'd blue,
Close huddled round it as the terrors grew,
Wish'd that some sneaking spectre dar'd appear,
And on each other flung the coward's fear.

'Beside their garden dwelt their living stock;
The petted lambkin from the smiling flock,
The peasant youngling's joy to see its race,
Its antic gambols, or its saunt'ring pace,
Or mount its back, or smooth its woolly coat,
Or twine a garland round its fleecy throat,
Or pat its visage fair, that seem'd so mild,
Though, in the frolic mood, so archly wild,
That oft the sulky dog, and cat demure,
Betray'd to romps, have fall'n into the lure.

'The rich man's pastimes are the poor man's wealth,
And yield him plenty, happiness, and health,
The fattening porker, and prolific sow,
The brooding hen, and balmy-breathing cow,
The proud, vain turkey, tyrant of the green,
The good old market mare, and sheep serene;
These fill'd the home-stall spare with life and glee,
These gave enough—enough 's prosperity!
These rais'd the hind, and lifted him to man,
And these were his till traitors chang'd the plan,
Their country's traitors! who with dire design—
But check awhile, my heart, th' indignant line.' P. 4.

The following passage brings Burns to our recollection.

'And when a neighbour chanc'd to wend that way,
What time the sun-set clos'd the cares of day,
Or sweet-heart guest, to woo the damsel fair,
How blithe with such the cottage meal to share!
No sense of morn or noon-tide toils remain,
But pleasure beats renew'd in every vein!
Round goes the home-brew'd, with the light regale,
And mirthful thoughts and artless jests prevail;
The peasant sire and matron, as they quaff
Good luck to lovers, mingle many a laugh
With winks and nods, the bashful maid to cheer,
While the flush'd youth in whispers wins her ear;
And as the time to bid farewell drew nigh,
The pitying father heard the lover's sigh,
And at the warning click to strike, he strove
With generous haste the hour-hand back to move;
And still the tender respite to prolong
The matron kind would claim the maiden's song;
And still, in fond return, the grateful swain
Would pour his passion in some artless strain,

Digitized by Google

Some soothing ditty that might hope inspire,
Or, in his turn, might call upon the sire,
Who in his age, rememb'ring days of youth,
Would troll his ballad fill'd with love and truth,
That very ballad which declar'd his flame,
When 'to the matron *he* a wooing came;
She, pleas'd to hear the recollected lay,
Prolong'd the parting hour by fresh delay,
Trill'd her own madrigal with joyous sound,
'Till all the cottage took the chorus round;—
At length, with promise of returning soon,
The swain hied home beneath the fav'ring moon.
'And when the fair return'd, how blithe to see
This from the plough, and that the wheel set free;
To hear how echo sent the mingled sound
O'er hill and vale, to woods and streams around.
Lo! in gay groups the harmless people go,
Prepar'd for ev'ry prank and every show;
All up betimes, and like the morning drest,
In nature's vermeil robe and lillied vest.
How sweet for earlier passenger to trace
Th' anticipated day in every face!
In every honest countenance reveal'd,
To read whate'er the light-wing'd hours might yield;
The hallow'd keep-sake, ever-sacred thing!
The motto'd garter, and the posied ring;
The bloomy ribbon, and the bonnet gay,
And hose, with figur'd clock, for holy-day;
The father's duffel stout, and matron's gown
Of goodly grey, or sober-seeming brown;
The jovial feasting, and the foaming ale,
The loud-sung roundelay, the merry tale;
The feats of merryman, the furious strife,
Warning, I ween, to maids! of punch and wife!
The bridal day pronounc'd, the banns arrang'd,
The vow repeated, and the kiss exchang'd;
Then to their cots, unmindful of the dews,
Pockets with fairings, and heads cramm'd with news,
For kin-folk dear at home, who pining there
Haply sit up to hear about the fair!
And then for grandsire old, and granny grey,
Came forth the soft memorials of the day;
The polish'd snuff-box, with its pungent store,
The sweetmeats rare, and bravely gilded o'er;
While those too young, like those too old to rove,
Receive their tokens of remember'd love;
The shrilly whistle, and more manly toy,
For the weak infant and the sturdy boy;
These, lightly slumb'ring, or their little eyes
By hope unclos'd, beheld with glad surprise

Digitized by Google

Those tokens gay, and half asleep, would take
The luscious lozenge or the tempting cake,
The orange sweet, or golden gingerbread,
And strew with many a crumb the tiny bed:
Small gifts! yet, ah, how priz'd! and brought to view,
As treasures promis'd, and expected too!
For still from youth to nature's latest hour
The little cares preserve their magic power.' P. 4.

It is unfortunate that Mr. Pratt's poem should so frequently remind us of better writers; not because he has imitated them, but from the necessity of his subject. There remains for him, however, a high praise. He has felt for the miseries of the poor, and expressed good feelings upon an important topic in a well-timed season. We could wish that he had not joined in the common and dangerous outcry against monopolisers.

'As the deep warehouse opes its massy doors,
Far from pale famine plenty sends its stores;
Roll'd to the busy wharfs, the ready barge
Upon the smooth canal receives the charge;
The fraudful hoards deep-laden to the brim,
Sacks pil'd on sacks, as heavily they swim
Far from the starving town—the thronging poor
In dire dismay stand gazing on the shore:
With ragged garments, and with haggard mien,
From alleys dark and foul, and lanes obscene,
In squallid groups they eager press around,
Silent awhile from horror too profound
For words or voice; but as the freight moves by,
And wealth observes it with triumphant eye,
A growing murmur gathers on the strand,
And mingled anguish stirs the meagre band;
The ruffian dealers see the tempest near,
And, as the thunders of the mob they hear
Begin to burst, the conscious cowards fly
With all the speed of trembling infamy.' P. 51.

'But soft, 'tis midnight! and while sleep the swains,
By magic moves the produce of the plains;
Deep groan the waggons with their pond'rous loads,
As their dark course they bend along the roads;
Wheel following wheel, in dread procession slow,
With half a harvest to their points they go,
Their magic points—by water and by land—
Known to the tyrants and their hireling band.
The secret expedition, like the night
That covers its intents, still shuns the light;
And, e'er the morning blushes on the deed,
The teams return, and all the plots succeed;

Digitized by Google

While the poor ploughman, when he leaves his bed,
Sees the huge barn as empty as his shed.
'Dark Night! couldst thou unfold the darker tale
Of craft and fraud thy raven pinions veil;
Or thou, pale moon! take up the guilty theme,
When the stol'n goods, beneath thy trembling beam,
Pass thief-like on, to work a people's woe,
Where small canals to mighty rivers flow:
Thence could parental Thames, or Severn, tell
What freights of villany their bosoms swell,
What hoarded stores, that might a people save,
There find, alas! a banishment or grave;
Rat-gnaw'd and rotted—lost to human use,
Accursed avarice! by thy base abuse;
O what tremendous scenes would meet the view,
To make wrong'd England start, and tremble too!' P. 53.

Mr. Pratt calls loudly for the interference of government. The same outcry has been general and violent; but our ministers have been happily firm, knowing that the evil lies beyond their power. It is not the interference of the legislature that can awaken good feelings, or counteract that love of gain which is the main spring, the very heart and life, of the commercial system. The moralist may do something—the clergyman may do more. Perhaps Mr. Pratt himself has chosen the best mode of admonition, by appealing to the feelings of individuals. How much is in the power of individuals, his own notes amply evince.

The second part is devoted to the present state of the middle classes. The poet describes the situation of a reduced gentleman—an affecting situation, which Mrs. Smith has powerfully delineated in one of her novels, and which has afforded interesting subjects for our theatres.

'Mark yon grey dome, which still attempts to hide
Its drooping honours from insulting pride;
And though, alas! the shell alone remains
Of what was once the wonder of the plains,
Still does the wreck affect an air of state,
The gapp'd park paling, and the gaping gate,
The towers dismantled, and the crumbling wall,
The mould'ring pillars, menacing a fall,
The garden weeded half, and half in flower,
The broken statues and disorder'd bower,
The vista trees hewn down beside the way,
E'en like their lord, majestic in decay;
And, as in better days, the warning bell,
That us'd the social hour of joy to tell,
When gay festivity pour'd forth his trains,
And gave a general welcome to the swains,
Now sending forth, alas! an empty sound,
To screen the ruin from the neighbours round.

Digitized by Google

'But oh! heart-piercing sight! see yonder bed,
Where high-born Lucius lays his anguish'd head;
A modest patrimony called him lord,
And frugal plenty smil'd upon his board;
That plenty well a numerous race supplied,
Nothing superfluous, nothing was denied
Which virtue wish'd, or nature pure might claim,
And smooth his life till public robbers came;
Till trebled each demand for daily bread,
And not increas'd the means by which they fed,
Then sire and husband in his breast contend,
While brooding misery excludes a friend;
To her who shar'd them, scarce he dares impart
The thronging horrors that devour his heart.
In some dim room, with ragged tapestry spread,
As if already number'd with the dead,
On his dire fate he seeks to muse alone,
While at each thought bursts forth a dismal groan;
The dread of want comes rushing to his brain,
He smites his boding heart, and groans again!' P. 25.

'Ah! little know the rich what pains molest,
In times like these, a patent's throbbing breast;
Ah! little think they, as in rooms of state,
'Midst flatt'ring mirrors and unweildy plate;
Or, fagg'd with yawning indolence, supine
On yielding down repose; from silver dine,
While swoln abundance the gorg'd banquet spreads,
And favoring fortune cloudless sunshine sheds
Thro' life, perchance, but as one summer day,
And every hour is taught to smile away;
Ah! little can they judge what Lucius knew,
As near his tott'ring hall fierce Famine drew;
Or, to prevent the fiend from ent'ring there,
And save his offspring from the last despair,
What thoughts annoy, what bitter fears invade,
What arts are tried, what sacrifices made;
How the fond mother, though to softness bred,
Turns every thrifty talent into bread;
And every present, e'en of bridal days,
Converts to housewifery a thousand ways;
Or how the daughters, from the world to keep
Their father's wrongs and sorrows, work and weep;
And, lest those wrongs and sorrows should be told,
Turn every youthful ornament to gold:
The hoarded tokens, and the keepsakes dear,
And love's soft pledge, is sold without a tear;
Save that one precious drop perchance may rise,
When at their father's feet their small supplies
They blushing lay, and as they trembling kneel,
Daughters alone can tell what daughters feel.

Digitized by Google

While the lorn father, still from foes to hide,
And spare the cureless wound of generous pride;
Yet more from friends to veil his home-felt woes,
His food, his raiment, and his rest foregoes.
'Yet, ah! with stern œconony extreme,
How hard to shun a grief still more supreme!
The frantic father sudden snatch'd away;
The daughters made of villany the prey;
The sons, still buffeting misfortune's flood,
Or their hands bath'd in a betrayer's blood;
The widow to her morsel left alone,
Or, with her beauteous wrecks, promiscuous thrown
On the hard world, with every shock beside
Of fallen fortunes and of wounded pride.' P. 28.

In satire Mr. Pratt is less happy: his gentlemen and lady farmers are coarse caricatures, not likenesses.

The author proposes remedies in the third part; and his advice is always humane, and generally judicious: he wishes, and every good man will sympathise with him in the wish, that a system of kindness and encouragement towards the poor should be adopted; that, instead of being driven to the miserable asylum of a workhouse, they should be assisted at home, and enabled by early aid to support themselves; and that the means of obtaining decent comfort by labour should always be given to the industrious. There are some affecting instances, in his notes, of successful exertion on the part of the poor, when their efforts have been encouraged.

The merit of the poem may be estimated by our extracts. Mr. Pratt's 'Sympathy' has had many admirers; and they who have been gratified by that work may certainly derive equal pleasure from the present performance.

ART. XII.—*Specimens of Literary Resemblance, in the Works of Pope, Gray, and other celebrated Writers; with Critical Observations: in a Series of Letters. By the Rev. Samuel Berdmore, D. D. &c.* 8vo. 4s. *Boards.* Wilkie. 1801.

TO trace the resemblances of one author to another is a task more of amusement than of importance. Oftentimes the likeness is fortuitous, and frequently it is the effect of memory mistaken for invention. The writers upon this subject sometimes weary us by their pedantry—sometimes insult us by their malevolence. After the infamous forgeries of Lauder had been detected, a Frenchman re-published the Sarcotis of Massenius, and insisted upon every remote resemblance with the busy malice of affected candour, as though he, with his foul breath,

Digitized by Google

could have tainted the laurels of Milton. The early reading of our great countryman has been investigated in England with a better spirit, that detracts not from established fame, though it restores their value and reputation to our old and long neglected writers. The worshippers of the great river have visited the streams and rivulets and little springs that feed its waters;—if their patience may have been sometimes misdirected, it is always pardonable.

There are other critics who delight in heaping together parallel passages, a toil equally laborious and of less utility, and which is more the work of a good memory than a sound judgement. The observations of Dr. Berdmore are likely to be more valuable, for they are such as have occurred to him, unsought, during a long course of classical studies. We will present our reader with the following specimens.

'We have often, you will recollect, read together, and been as often charmed with the introductory stanza to the first of Mr. Gray's two Pindaric odes—the Progress of Poetry, where you have these admirable lines:

"Now the rich stream of music winds along,
Deep, majestic, smooth, and strong,
Through verdant vales, and Ceres' golden reign:
Now rolling from the steep amain,
Headlong impetuous see it pour;
The rocks and nodding groves rebellow to the roar."

'The great excellencies of the sublimest poetry are here united with an ease and elegance which give to the composition so much the air of an original, that none of Mr. Gray's editors, or commentators on his works, seem to have suspected an imitation.' P. 14.

'Now allow me to submit to your consideration the following lines, which I am inclined to believe you have already in imagination anticipated, from one of the sublimest odes in Horace:

——"Quod adest, memento
Componere æquus. Cætera fluminis
Ritu feruntur, nunc medio alveo
Cum pace delabentis Etruscum
In mare; nunc lapides adesos
Stirpesque raptas, et pecus, et domos,
Volventis una; non sine montium
Clamore, vicinæque sylvæ." B. III. O. 29.

'With this stanza before us, will there not arise in the mind something like *suspicion*, that Mr. Gray, when he wrote the fine lines quoted above, had *his eye on* Horace. Allow me to mark the principal features of resemblance. We have in each poet a stream, applied by the one to the various forms of poetry, by the other to the

Digitized by Google

vicissitudes of human affairs, with especial reference to political revolutions. It is conducted by both, first in a course of placid serenity, then in torrents of rapid impetuosity, and marked at the close by the same striking and impressive consequence—

"The rocks and nodding groves rebellow to the roar:"

very nearly a verbal translation of the Latin text,

"Non sine montium
Clamore, vicinæque sylvæ."

Here is certainly in these two passages an extraordinary coincidence of thought and imagery: in addition to which, the varying circumstances described in both follow each other exactly in the same order. The attentive reader will however discover, under this general similitude, a considerable difference in the mode of composition between the British and the Roman Pindar. Enough, perhaps you will think, to remove all appearance of direct imitation. It is most probable that Gray, without recurring to the text of Horace, has only copied from the traces which a frequent perusal had left upon his memory. This hypothesis will appear more credible when we analyse the different forms of composition. While the stream of Horace glides quietly into the Etruscan ocean, with no other distinction than that of gentleness—

"*Cum pace* delabentis Etruscum
In mare,"——

the stream of Gray winds along with a marked character, appropriate to his subject—

"Deep, majestic, smooth, and strong."

Mr. Gray gives also peculiar grace and beauty to the piece by his skilful use of the metaphorical style; blending the simile with the subject, so much in the manner of Pindar; and not making, as Horace has done, a formal comparison of the one with the other.' p. 16.

'Mr. Gray, it will be seen, has still further improved upon the Roman bard, by the addition of those verdant vales and golden fields of corn, through which, in the first division of his subject, he conducts the peaceful stream—

"Through verdant vales and Ceres' golden reign."

In the second division he simply describes it, now swollen into an overflowing river, rolling impetuously down the steep descent; which Horace emphatically expresses from Homer by the effects.

'You, who are wont to view all works of taste with so correct and critical an eye, cannot fail to observe, and at the same time to admire, the masterly skill of these great artists in the execution of their separate designs.

'In Mr. Gray's Ode, the varying movements of music or poetry are very happily illustrated by the inconstant current of a river;

Digitized by Google

assuming in different places a different character; presenting you by turns either with rich and beautiful prospects, in soothing composure, or rousing the mind into emotions of wonder and astonishment, by scenes of a bolder feature; rolling, with the roar of thunder, down broken rocks and precipices.

'The imagery of Horace is equally well chosen, and suited to his purpose. His object was the course of events, which alternately take place in a popular government, at one time peaceful and orderly, dispensing ease, security, and happiness to all around; at another, irregular, tumultuous, and turbulent, marking its progress with terror and destruction; like the changeful course of a river, the Tiber for instance, which was daily in his view, flowing at one time quietly and equably within its accustomed banks; at another—

"Cum fera diluvies quietos
Irritat amnes—"

raising its swollen waves above all bounds, breaking with irresistible fury through all obstacles, and, with wide-spreading desolation, bearing down every thing in its way—

——— "lapides adesos
Stirpesque raptas, et pecus, et domos." P. 21.

An able vindication of The Bard follows. Dr. Berdmore contends, against Dr. Johnson, that this ode is not an imitation of the Prophecy of Nereus; and he asserts, with Algarotti, that it is a very superior poem.

'This is a question (he says) which does not admit of argument. If there be a man who can hear the sudden breaking forth of those terrific sounds in the exordium, at which *stout Gloucester stood aghast*, and *Mortimer cried to arms*, and not thrill with horror;—if there be a man, who can behold the awful figure of the bard, in his *sable vestments*, *with his haggard eyes*, *his loose beard* and *hoary hair*, which—

"*Stream'd like a meteor to the troubled air*,'

and hear him

"*Strike the deep sorrows of his lyre*"

without emotion;—this man, if such a man there be, has no feelings to which a critic on the works of a great poet can apply. It were as vain and useless to converse with a man of this description on such subjects, as to commune with a deaf man on the enchantments of music, or with one blind on the charms of beauty.

'While I am conversing with you, who are neither deaf nor blind, I am tempted to enter more deeply into the examination of this astonishing performance, which I shall consider in rather a new light. Every reader is stricken with the wildness of the scenery—the grandeur and sublimity of thought—the boldness of the imagery—the fire and enthusiasm which animate the ode throughout. Let me now more particularly call your attention to the highly figurative and majestic diction which pervades the whole, involved in that

Digitized by Google

awful obscurity so suited to the occasion, and characteristically belonging to the language of prophecy. This obscurity has, I know, been objected to by men of some note, who must surely have considered the subject very superficially, as a defect; for which, they say, while it sheds so much darkness over the whole composition, as to preclude from the view of the disappointed reader almost all its beauties, no merit in other respects, however great and transcendent, can compensate. For myself, I have no scruple in confessing, that this very obscurity, so much condemned by judges of this description, has always appeared in my eye a distinguishing excellency of the poem. The tissue woven with bloody hands by the bard, in concert with the spectres of his murdered brethren,

"*The winding sheet of Edward's race,*"

on which were to be traced their impending misfortunes, has in it something tremendously sublime, analogous to the emblematical images under which are usually conveyed the prophetic denunciations of divine wrath in the sacred writings: of these every one feels the effect. In the same sublime strain the descendents of Edward are in succession designated, not by name, but by some mystic allusion; under which the figures assume a more terrific appearance, from the mist which is gathered round them. The tragical fate which severally awaits them is denounced under the representation of some terrible image, encompassed with almost impenetrable darkness, impressing on the mind a dreadful foreboding of future calamity—the more alarming, as its nature, extent, and effect are unknown and undefined.

'From these scenes of horror the bard is rapt, by a sudden and unexpected transition, into visions of glory; and the imagination, but now appalled by terror, and sunk into dismay, is roused by the prospect of happier events, descried in dazzling splendor, though still with the same indistinctness of imagery, at a distance, into transports of joy and triumphant exultation over Edward, on the ultimate defeat of his impious attempt.

'The transcendent merit of Mr. Gray's manner can no way be better illustrated than by a comparative view of the manner adopted by Horace, in the ode, of which Dr. Johnson is so willing to think the Bard an imitation. The appearance of Nereus, engaged in the important office of calming the winds, in order to sing the cruel fates of Paris, has a solemnity in it which raises the mind to an expectation of something great and momentous; yet, when we contemplate the figure of Nereus, presented, as he is, with no appropriate investment, with no local advantages, stationed we know not where, uttering his denunciations we know not whence, with what superior dignity and spirit does the Bard appear! in the romantic situation and interesting attitude described by Gray, *striking* with solemn accompaniments *the deep sorrows of his lyre.*' P. 23.

We have extracted this criticism at length, for the force and feeling with which it is written. The opinion of Dr. Berdmore, familiarised as he is to Horace, and intimate as he shows himself with his most hidden allusions, is assuredly of great weight.

Digitized by Google

The Bard, though perhaps not the best of English odes, is certainly the most popular; a narrative and a dramatic interest pervade it, which the odes of Collins want: and therefore, though of higher merit, they are read less frequently, and with less pleasure. The ore is purer, but it has been cast in a worse mould.

A fine passage in Dr. Ogden's Sermons is here traced to Xenophon. The preacher—

'— addressing himself to a young man, whose behaviour he supposes less correct than it ought to be, enforces the obligations of children to their parents in a strain of irresistible eloquence, as follows:

"Now so proud! self-willed! inexorable! thou couldst then only ask by wailing, and move them by thy tears; and they were moved. Their heart was touched with thy distress. They relieved and watched thy wants, before thou *knewest thine own necessities or their kindness.* They clothed thee; *thou knewest not that thou wast naked.* Thou *askedst not for bread*; but they fed thee."

'Did you ever read? or can any young man, however proud, self-willed, inexorable, ever read this impassioned address without emotion? Nor can we easily persuade ourselves otherwise, than that the respectable author was here transcribing the affections of his own heart; for, as appears from the short memoirs of his life, drawn up and prefixed to an edition of his sermons, in two volumes, by the late Dr. Hallifax, he was a truly affectionate and dutiful son, such a one as "maketh a glad father."

'It may not be uninteresting to see the same thoughts worked up into an elegant form by an admired ancient. Xenophon, you will recollect, in his Memoirs of Socrates, introduces the philosopher discoursing in the following terms:

'Ἡ γυνὴ ὑποδεξαμένη τὸ φορτίον τοῦτο, βαρυνομένη τε καὶ κινδυνεύουσα περὶ τῷ βίῳ, καὶ μεταδιδοῦσα τῆς τροφῆς, ἣ καὶ αὐτὴ τρέφεται, καὶ σὺν πολλῷ πόνῳ διενεγκοῦσα καὶ τεκοῦσα τρέφει τε καὶ ἐπιμελεῖται, οὐδὲ προπεπονθυῖα οὐδὲν ἀγαθὸν, οὐδὲ ΓΙΓΝΩΣΚΟΝ ΤΟ ΒΡΕΦΟΣ ΤΩ ΟΤΟΥ ΕΤΠΑΣΧΕΙ, οὐδὲ ΣΗΜΑΙΝΕΙΝ ΔΥΝΑΜΕΝΟΝ ΟΤΟΥ ΔΕΙΤΑΙ. Xen. Mem. l. ii. c. 11.

'The sentiments under the expressions, marked in the English text by Italics, and by capitals in the Greek, bear, you will take notice, a striking resemblance to each other; and, though evidently most just and natural, are, so far as my observation goes, no where to be found but in these two passages. If you read the whole chapter, from which the lines above are taken—and the perusal will abundantly repay your trouble—you will find throughout a great similarity of thought between the philosopher and the preacher. In the short passage immediately before us, the preacher appears to have given more of pathos to the subject, by a judicious amplification, illustrating the general sentiment by specific instances, very happily chosen to affect the feelings.

'Dr. Ogden was undoubtedly well versed in all the works of Xenophon. May we not therefore suppose, without any derogation from his merit, that while he was composing this admirable sermon

Digitized by Google

his thoughts might take their colour from the tints collected upon his mind by frequent communication with this fine writer?' p. 34.

We shall close our extracts with a passage from Horace, which Dr. Berdmore seems very happily to have elucidated.

'It has created,' he says, 'no small perplexity amongst the scholiasts and commentators,—such of them I mean as have ventured to remark upon it: for some of the first order, as Bentley, Gessner, and others, with a reserve not very unusual where real difficulties occur, have kept a wary silence.

——— "Hinc *apicem rapax*
Fortuna cum *stridore acuto*
Sustulit, hic posuisse gaudet."
Carm. Lib. i. O. 34.

'It may not be unamusing to observe for a moment how these *learned critics* puzzle themselves in endeavouring to explain what, by their awkward attempts, they very plainly show that they did not at all understand.

'One gravely interprets the term *rapax* by *mutabilis*, *acuto* by *luctuoso*.

'Another, by an exposition still more extraordinary, renders *rapax sustulit* by *clam sustulit*.

'A third, with great importance, on the words cum *stridore acuto*, "his verbis puto significari Fortunæ commutationem, quæ vix intelligi potest sine magno sonitu ac fragore. Stridor enim sonitum ac strepitum significat, non clamorem."

'Thus do they go blundering on, rendering "confusion worse confounded,"—not attempting, any of them, to describe the unusual figure which Fortune is here made to assume. Had they attended a little more to this circumstance, it would, perhaps, have saved them much of the trouble in which they have involved both themselves and their readers.

'Bene, says a modern editor, in general an acute and sagacious interpreter of his author, Baxter, cum *stridore acuto*, cum ante posuerit *rapax*, adinstar scilicet procellosi turbinis.

'This roar of storm and thunder seems also to have rumbled in the ears of M. Dacier; though, when on second thoughts he explains *stridore acuto* by the sounds made by the wings of Fortune, he seems to have caught a glimpse of the real image which the poet had in his eye—that of a soaring eagle; as will appear from an extraordinary occurrence related by the historian. I will beg leave to transcribe the passage.

"Ei (Lucumoni) carpento sedenti cum uxore, AQUILA suspensis demissa leniter alis *pileum* aufert, superque carpentum cum *magno clangore* volitans rursus, velut ministerio divinitus missa, capiti aptè reponit; inde sublimis abit. Accepisse id augurium læta dicitur Tanaquil, perita, ut vulgo Etrusci, cœlestium prodigiorum mulier. Excelsa et alta sperare complexa virum jubet. Eam alitem ea regione cœli, et ejus Dei nunciam venisse. Circa summum culmen hominis auspicium fecisse. Levásse humano superpositum capiti *decus*, ut eidem divinitus redderet." Liv. lib. i. c. 34.

Digitized by Google

'Wonders and prodigies ever attend the remoter periods of great states and kingdoms. They never fail to be recorded in their earlier annals, are superstitiously delivered down from father to son, and received with an easy and willing credence amongst the populace. Of this description is the tale of Lucumo and the eagle, which I doubt not was as familiar amongst the Romans, as well-known, and as often repeated, as with us the legends of King Arthur, and the Knights of the Round Table, Guy Earl of Warwick, St. George and the Dragon, &c.

'Thus it appears that the poet, when he attributed so uncommon a figure to Fortune, with so singular a mode of action, alluded to a popular story in every body's mouth. The allusion, of course, was immediately acknowledged by the reader, and felt in all its force.

'By the light hence thrown on the subject, whatever there was of obscurity has vanished, all difficulties are done away, every expression resumes its usual and proper signification, and the sentence becomes clear and luminous.

'The term *rapax* is not, you see, to be understood as epithetical to Fortuna, but to be taken, as adjectives are often used by the poets, adverbially, and joined in construction with the verb sustulit. *Rapax* sustulit, i. e. *rapaciter* sustulit, *rapuit*.

'By the expression *stridore acuto*, the great stumbling-block of the commentators, are plainly signified, as intimated by a vague conjecture of the learned Frenchman, the sounds made by the eagle clapping its wings and screaming in its flight, which the historian expresses by the words *magno clangore*.'

The other passages which Dr. Berdmore has illustrated are few in number. We cannot but remark, that the form of epistolary writing is surely but ill adapted for this species of research, though it have enabled the writer to swell his observations into a volume.

A disputatious tone pervades the book, which is exceedingly unpleasant. Dr. Berdmore attempts to revive the old Warburtonian controversies; but we trust that he is blowing at a fire of which only the ashes remain.

'I have by me (he says) at this moment a series of letters from Dr. Warburton to Dr. Jortin, in which he is repeatedly expressing his thanks for literary services received from Dr. Jortin, with many grateful acknowledgements of obligation.' p. 67.

To this passage there is the following note:

'From the year 1749 to the year 1758.

'To remove the mysterious veil which hath long hung darkly over the transactions of certain literary men, eminent in their day, and the more decisively to vindicate the character of Dr. Jortin from the unprovoked attacks injuriously made upon it by those who, as they daily saw, ought to have respected his virtues and abilities, it has been suggested that it would be an act of justice to make these letters public.' p. 123.

Digitized by Google

We wish the very respectable author of this work had contented himself with convicting Dr. Hurd of plagiarism: *that* is consistent with the plan and title of his book; but the polemical spirit and the personal dislike which he indulges are unworthy his own character. The eye is offended by the invidious appellation of the LEARNED CRITIC in every page, and every where forced into notice by capitals. These disputes are to literature what electioneering broils are to our home politics—what the jarrings of the petty Italian states and Swiss bailiwicks are to history.

ART. XIII.—*Observations on some Medals and Gems, bearing Inscriptions in the Pahlavi or ancient Persick Character. By Sir William Ouseley.* 4*to.* 5*s. sewed.* Harding. 1801.

INDEFATIGABLE in his researches into oriental literature, sir William Ouseley has here entered into an explanation of several curious monuments of antiquity, which continued obscure till the learned M. de Sacy successfully offered an interpretation.

The present dissertation is introduced by the following advertisement.

'Having been informed, by a letter received last month from a very learned foreign orientalist, that the study of Persian antiquities is widely diffused over the continent of Europe, and that a gentleman attached to the embassy from Vienna to Constantinople is employed on the subject of Sassanian coins, I became apprehensive that some remarks and conjectures which had suggested themselves to me whilst decyphering various Pahlavi inscriptions might be anticipated, and the merit of having first explained some gems and medals might be disputed by another.

'That I may secure my claim to priority, I have extracted, in the following work, some passages from the manuscript materials of a Treatise on the Numismatick and Miscellaneous Antiquities of Persia, which, although I have been several months employed in the composition of it, from the delay in cutting types and engraving plates, cannot be ready for publication before the spring of next year.

'In the present work, after M. de Sacy's example, I have expressed the Pahlavi in equivalent Hebrew characters, and must refer my readers to the alphabet which that celebrated orientalist has given in his *Mémoires sur diverses Antiquités de la Perse.*

'To this alphabet I am enabled to add, by the study of several rare gems and medals, a variety of forms in different letters.—All these shall be exhibited at one view on a copper-plate annexed to my future volume; for which, also, I am now preparing moveable types, to express the true and ancient Pahlavi character; as those which were used by the learned Hyde, of Oxford, imitate only the hand-writing of the modern Parsis, or fire-worshippers.' P. iii.

Digitized by Google

But as M. de Sacy has an undoubted claim to the priority of discovery, it cannot be a matter of much consequence whether sir William Ouseley, or the foreign orientalist here alluded to, appear in the second or third rank. M. de Sacy seems even to have felt that there was some little degree of injustice in any claim of antecedence to which he himself is alone entitled; and in a French journal he has published a *critique* on this work, in which there are some slight symptoms of displeasure—though, as a man of candour and science, he expresses satisfaction at the efforts of our learned knight: he does not however approve of all our author's conjectures. A question is started, whether those medals of the Persian kings which bear the simple title of *iran*, or those which bear *iran* and *aniran*, be the more ancient? As these coins commence in the third century, and proceed down to the seventh, we should conclude it to be a common medallic question, and that those of the best workmanship are the most ancient. The question may also be estimated by the superior thickness of the more ancient coins, and a comparison of the more modern with those of the kalifs*. M. de Sacy supposes that those with the title of *iran* only are the most ancient: he doubts the interpretation of a gem from the cabinet of Gorlæus, nor can he find the name of *Khosrou* on the coins mentioned by our learned orientalist. He also differs in some other minute circumstances.

M. de Sacy justly observes that the medal discussed in the second section of sir William Ouseley's work is the most curious and important of all, as it presents three heads, of a king, queen, and prince; and he perfectly approves the interpretation which sir William Ouseley has given. For this reason, and as the section is short, we shall select it as a sufficient specimen of this excellent dissertation.

'In the annexed plate are representations of two medals; that marked fig. 1. copied from the third supplement to Pellerin's *Recueils de Médailles*, the other taken from the coin itself, preserved in Dr. Hunter's museum†. Of this, Mr. Pinkerton, a most able and ingenious antiquary, perceived the value, when he selected it from the entire collection as a specimen of Sassanian coinage ‡.

* Those with a full face must also be the most modern.—Rev.

'† Mr. Tassie, a very ingenious young artist of London, has lately obtained permission to take moulds of all the Sassanian, as well as many other ancient medals belonging to this admirable collection, from which the impressions, in paste or sulphur, exhibit with such accuracy the minutest features, as to render any inspection of the originals almost unnecessary for the purposes of a decypherer.'

'‡ See his Essay on Medals, vol. i. plate i. fig. 10—from which work an engraving of this medal has been copied in the Encyclopædia Britannica, lately printed at Edinburgh.—Article *Medal*.'

Digitized by Google

'The first is of gold, and was deposited in the Cabinet du Roi at Paris. "Those who apply themselves to the study of ancient history," says M. Pellerin, "may perhaps discover on this golden medal some character or feature which shall enable them to ascertain the king and queen whose heads it exhibits, closely touching, or joined one to the other, with the bust or half-figure of a young man opposite, who offers them a crown *."

'Of this very curious medal M. de Sacy informs us that the legend is composed of characters so small and badly expressed, that his endeavours to decypher it were vain †. My own attempts on this subject would no doubt have proved equally fruitless, had not the silver Hunterian medal, which bears the same device, and incontestably belongs to the same king, presented the following inscription in characters distinct and legible.

'On the obverse,

מזדיסן בה ורחראן מלכאן מלכאן איראן מנוחתרי מן יזדא

Mazdiesn beh Varharan malkan malkan airan minochetri men Yezda (n)‡.

"The worshipper of Ormuzd—the excellent Baharam, king of kings—of Iran—celestially descended from the Gods."

'On the reverse,

ורחר ן יזדאני *Varhar (a) n Yesdani*, "or, Baharam the divine §,"

'The reader will perceive that the letter *n* in the second *maikan* is superfluous: the Sassanian medals afford many instances of similar inaccuracies and mistakes; some of these M. de Sacy has pointed out, and others shall be noticed in my future publication: the last word of the inscription on the obverse *(Yezdan)* wants the final *n*; and in this respect the gold medal agrees with the silver, if M. Pellerin's engraving of the former has been executed with fidelity.

'* "Ceux qui s'appliquent à l'étude de l'histoire ancienne pourront peut-être aussi y trouver quelque trait propre à donner connoissance du roi et de la reine dont les têtes sont accolées sur la médaille d'or au devant desquels est la figure d'un jeune homme à mi-corps qui leur présente une couronne."—Trois. Supplém. aux Recueils des Méd. p. 36.'

'† "—— mais les caractères sont si petits et si informes que je n'ai rien pu y distinguer, &c."—Mém. sur diverses Antiq. 193.'

‡ مزديسن به ورهران ملكان ايران منوچتري من يردان

§ ورهران يزداني

Digitized by Google

'Although we are enabled to assign these medals to Baharam, yet they furnish no information on the subject of the queen and youth whose portraits they exhibit. The king appears wearing his winged tiara, as one supporter of the fire-altar on the reverse; whilst a female (most probably the queen) is represented as the other. On the Hunterian medal the sex of this figure is perfectly discernible, and particularly marked by the projecting head-dress, which resembles that of the queen on the obverse: but Mr. Pinkerton's engraver *, like the artist whom Pellerin † employed, has metamorphosed the female supporter into a bearded man, and omitted the wing, which on the other supporter's head is evidently one of the regal ornaments.

'My reasons for attributing those coins to Baharam the Fifth, rather than to any other prince of that name, shall be hereafter mentioned.

'I cannot however proceed to the next section without remarking that a gold medal of the Sassanidæ is in itself a numismatic treasure of uncommon value; because, according to Procopius, "it was not lawful for the Persian kings, or any other monarch of the Barbarians, to stamp their images on pieces of gold, whatever quantities of that metal they might possess, since money of such a description was not used in the commercial dealings even of the Barbarians themselves ‡."

'The reader must determine whether the discovery of a single medal should invalidate the evidence of Procopius. I know not of any other exception to the general rule; and even this may perhaps have been stricken as a proof-piece, and never intended for general circulation.

'I shall examine, in another place, all that can be collected from the works of Tabari, Ferdusi, and Nizami, respecting the Sassanian as well as the more early coinage of Persia: but I cannot here suppress, although by quoting them I encroach on the materials of my future work, one passage from a very ancient and excellent historian, Assim of Cufa, and another of much greater strength, from Tabari. In relating the conquests of the khalif Omar, Assim informs us that Hormuzan, prince or governor of Ahwaz, and a general of the Persians, having been taken prisoner by Abu Musa Alashari, the Arabians entered his palace, and one of them perceived a statue of marble, representing a human figure pointing with both hands to a certain spot on the ground. The sagacious mussulman soon conceived that this attitude of the statue indicated the concealment of some treasure—

'* See Essay on Medals, vol. i. pl. 1. fig. 10.'

'† See Troisième Supplem. aux Recueils des Méd. pl. 2. fig. 1.'

'‡ "Χαρακτηρα δε ιδιον εμβαλλεσθαι στατηρι χρυσῳ ȣτε αυτον θεμις, ȣτε δε αλλον ὁντινα ȣν βασιλεα των παντων βαρβαρων· και ταυτα, μαλλον οντα χρυσȣ κυριον επει ȣδε τοις ξυμβαλλȣσι προϊεσθαι το νομισμα τȣτη οἱοιτε εισιν, κἀν βαρβαρȣς τȣς ξυμβαλλοντας ειναι ξυμβαινει." Procop. de Bello Gothico, lib. iii. c. 33. or, according to some copies, cap. 17.'

Digitized by Google

"Awhile he contemplated the statue, and thought within himself that since it was so fixed against the wall as to point with its hands towards the ground, there must, by all means, have been something hidden there. He hastened to Abu Musa, and informed him of the circumstance. Abu Musa immediately sent some trusty persons to dig up the ground;—they discovered a great basket fastened by a very strong lock; and Abu Musa having ordered them to lift up the cover, they found in it money coined in the name of the Kesri *, with many trinkets of gold, such as ear-rings or pendants, collars or necklaces, ornaments † for the feet of every kind, all set with jewels, besides a considerable number of beautiful rings, &c."

'The word زر which I have here equivocally translated *money*, signifies, in its primitive and proper sense, *gold*; but as it is often used, in familiar conversation and writing, to express coin of silver as well as of gold, I shall not infer more from this passage than a very strong probability that it alludes to money of both metals—an inference sufficiently justified by the following extract from Tabari, who, describing a great battle in the time of Omar, between the Arabs and Persians, introduces the following anecdote:—

"And the Persians waited until the day became warm, and after that a breeze arose from the west, and blew upon the faces of the Persians, so that they could not discern one another—and Rustam (their general) had placed his throne on the brink of a rivulet, and a thousand camels laden with direms and dinars (silver and gold money) were standing near his throne; and above his head was suspended a curtain or awning to yield him shade: this curtain the wind carried off, and it fell into the water. The sun's heat being very powerful, Rustam arose from his golden throne, and sheltered himself at the feet of a camel, and the Arabs had penetrated to the

---

'* This word, although originally applied by the Arabian authors to Nushirvan, must be here translated *the Persian king*; for in this sense it frequently occurs in other parts of Assim's Chronicle. Thus, speaking of Shad the son of Azad, one of king Yezdegerd's officers, he styles him سرهنكي از سرهنكان كسري "a general of the generals of the Kesri." — In Tabari also we find يزدجرد كسري *Kesri Yezdegerd*.'

'† The word ورنجن is sometimes written برنجن—the و (*v*) being changed into ب (*b*), as in many other examples. *Verenjin*, according to Ferhungs Jehangiri, and Borhan Kattea (see article ورنجن) signifies the clasps or rings of gold or silver which women wear upon their wrists and ankles.'

Digitized by Google

centre: and a certain man of the Arabs, named Helal ben Alkamah came towards that camel, and, knowing that it was laden with direms and dinars, he cut the camel's rope with his sword, and a sack of dinars fell from the camel's load upon the back of Rustam, and broke his back-bone—and in his agony he threw himself into the water: but Helal knew that this was Rustam, and he took him by the feet and drew him forth from the water, and cut off his head, and stuck it on the point of his spear, &c."

I shall close this section by observing that the word درم *(direm)* or درهم *(dirhem)* although it may be translated according to that excellent dictionary, the *Kashf al loghat*, سهر زر و نقره و مس "coin of gold, silver, or copper;" yet when used with دينار *(dinar)*, as in the passage above quoted, it must rather signify silver, *dinar* being the proper term for gold *. Thus the Arabic dictionary, entitled بحر الجواهر or "ocean of pearls," explains the word الدينار اي الذهب "Dinar, that is, gold." The *Ferhung Abdurrahim* says, دينار سهر اينست زرين "Dinar—coin, that is, of gold"—and the *Borhan Kattea* defines it "red money or gold" زر سرخ in contradistinction to white or silver money. The *Old Ravayet*, a curious manuscript containing many traditions of the Parsis, speaks of this red or golden coin, and of دينار مصري *Egyptian dinars*, and دينار خسروي Imperial dinars, or *dinars of Khosru* in the time of Nushirvan. We also find mention of dinars in Ferdusi's History of Baharam the First, Khosru Parviz, Shirouieh, and other Sassanian kings; and we read in the *Acts of the Eastern Martyrs* †, that Shapour sent to Barshemin a vase or cup filled with a thousand golden *sincas*. The learned editor Assemanni, who gives the original Syriac of this passage, remarks that the *sinca*, or half-drachm, is the name of a coin still used in the east ‡.' P. 7.

' * "Aureum دينار *(dinár)* denarium; argenteum درهم *(dirhem)* drachmam; æreum فلس *(fuls)* follem appellans."—O. G. Tychsen, Introd. in Rem Numariam Muham. p. 8.'

' † "Acta Martyrum Orientalium." Tom. i. p. 114.'

' ‡ "Sinca, *i. e.* semi-drachma, monetæ id nomen est quæ etiamnum apud Orientales viget." p. 117.'

Digitized by Google

Upon the whole, this tract is another favorable specimen of sir William Ouseley's well-known abilities in oriental literature; and we shall be glad to see the publication of the Miscellaneous Antiquities of Persia, which he has here announced.

MONTHLY CATALOGUE.

POLITICS.....POLITICAL ECONOMY.

ART. 14.—*The immediate Causes, and remote Consequences of the Peace, considered.* 8*vo.* 2*s.* Thurgood. 1801.

THE language of Mr. Pitt's administration on the object of the late unfortunate war is contrasted with that of the opposition on the same subject; and the empty boastings of the former are treated with a considerable degree of severity.

'The nation was *cajoled*, and its representatives *influenced*, to support the minister in a war for an indefinite object, and incomprehensible term—as long, it may be said, as his ingenuity could devise ways and means for carrying it on, or till his pride or his private revenge should be satisfied; and it is not easy to say which of these predominated at times, or most contributed to make up his concealed and implacable motive.' P. 30.

What led the minister to desist from his mad enterprise is, in different circles, ascribed to various causes; but our author is positive that—

'Nothing less than a consciousness that the whole fabric was about to fall, and, like another Samson, crush him in its ruins, could force this obstinate man to quit his hold of the pillars of the temple.' P. 31.

The causes of the peace then were the failure in obtaining any one of the objects contended for by the abettors of the war—the defection of all our allies—the inevitable ruin of the country by the paper system. Yet the consequences of the peace are represented as very dangerous. A spirit of disaffection, from a comparison of the degree of liberty gained by France with that lost in England; the difference of taxation in the two countries, in one of which each individual pays little more than four shillings, in the other little less than four pounds annually; the cheapness of living in the former country, and encouragement to emigration—all these are said to be calls on persons in power for a restoration of the old maxims of government; and a peaceable reform is recommended to prevent the ne-

Digitized by Google

cessity of a revolution. The pamphlet is written with great spirit; and the late ministers and their abettors are treated in a manner which may justly call to their recollection the haughty and imperious language used by themselves in the plenitude of their power.

ART. 15.—*Reflexions at the Conclusion of the War: being a Sequel to "Reflexions on the political and moral State of Society at the Close of the Eighteenth Century." By John Bowles, Esq.* 8vo. 2s. 6d. Rivingtons.

The old story—War without end with the French republic—Praises of monarchy—Invectives against the Jacobins and the Whigs—Trite maxims about the balance of power. This furious Anti-Jacobin, who resembles his adversaries in the worst features of their character, (for extremes very frequently coincide) has the *cacoëthes scribendi* so strongly upon him, that the universal joy expressed by the nation on the return of peace cannot prevent him from raking in the ashes of the now extinguished war for a subject; nor can any thing convince him, that, the delusion being over, his sentiments are beginning to be as unpopular as they are contrary to the principles maintained by our forefathers at the revolution.

ART. 16.—*A Supplement to Reflexions on the political and moral State of Society, at the Close of the Eighteenth Century: in which the political State of Society is continued to the Month of June* 1801. *By John Bowles, Esq.* 8vo. 1s. Rivingtons.

Bonaparte is termed 'an usurper, the Corsican usurper, the consular patron of traitors and incendiaries, the wily Corsican, a public robber, &c. &c.' and he is said to be inexpressibly solicitous to conceal—that 'ceaseless war is his fixed resolve.' Unfortunately for the author, the present negotiations give the lie direct to his last assertions, and there is little more propriety in terming Bonaparte an usurper than in vilifying William the Third with the same character. But whatever may be the crimes of the Corsican hero, he has not hitherto usurped a crown; and the language of this furious Anti-Jacobin tends to no good purpose whatever. The pamphlet may find readers, but the mind must be in a strange state indeed which can be pleased with such a tissue of folly and falsehood.

ART. 17.—*The Preliminary Articles of Peace, between the United Kingdom of Great-Britain and the French Republic, as ratified by both Parties. With Observations, &c. &c.* 8vo. 6d. Symonds.

The pamphlet is patched together from the newspapers, and contains the letter of Lord Hawkesbury to the Lord Mayor, an extract from the gazette, and the preliminary articles; to which are added between two or three pages of remarks of no great importance.

ART. 18.—*Thoughts on the Preliminary Articles of Peace. By a Kentish Clergyman.* 8vo. 1s. 6d. Rivingtons. 1801.

This pamphlet is written with the best intentions, but it was scarcely necessary to give these thoughts to the public. For almost every one, except a few of the more violent Anti-Jacobins, are satisfied with the preliminary articles, and confide in the sincerity of all

Digitized by Google

parties concerned in the present negotiations, for a proof that the interests of France and England will be mutually consulted, and that the approaching peace will be established on as permanent a basis as can be expected in the present situation of Europe.

ART. 19.—*Reflexions on the Preliminaries of Peace between Great-Britain and the French Republic. By B. Flower,* 12mo. 4d. Crosby *and* Letterman.

The contents of this pamphlet have been very widely circulated. They were first inserted in a provincial newspaper, entitled the Cambridge Intelligencer, by the author, who is also the publisher of that paper; in which state they met with so much approbation, that it was thought proper to give them their present edition. One gentleman took five hundred copies to distribute among his friends, and more than one copy, there is reason to believe, was sent to the ex-minister. His measures are treated with the utmost severity; the real state of our preliminaries is placed in its true colours, and the whole is summed up in few words: From France the ministers have gained nothing—to France they have yielded every thing. This is clearly established by the terms of the preliminary articles, and the vain boastings of the ex-minister and his advocates are contrasted with the feelings which they must possess in their present fallen situation. The language used in this pamphlet is remarkably nervous and strong; it evinces an undaunted spirit; and they who talked of the facility of marching to Paris will find very great difficulty in warding off this severe and animated attack upon their conduct.

ART. 20.—*Profusion of Paper-Money, not Deficiency in Harvests; Taxation, not Speculation, the principal Causes of the Sufferings of the People. With an Appendix, containing Observations on the Report of the Committee of the House of Commons appointed to inquire into the High Price of Provisions—and an important Inference from Mr. H. Thornton's Speech in Parliament on March 26. By a Banker.* 8vo. 1s. Jordan. 1802.

There is much truth in this pamphlet, and people in general begin now to be convinced of a fact which is well stated, and in few terms, in the work before us. 'What was a shilling before the year 1797 is now only ninepence; and while a labourer suffers the loss of a fourth part of his wages, he is made to pay, by the operation of an income-tax, ten per cent. on every article of his consumption.' This pamphlet should be added to those of Mr. Boyd, sir F. Baring, and Mr. Frend, whose publications are animadverted upon, though the author bends to the sentiments of Mr. Boyd. The surprise expressed at the silence of the committee of the house of commons on the Bank's stoppage of payment reminds us of the assiduity with which Black Jack assisted Tom Jones in the search after his pocket-book. Every place was hunted over and over again, except one—the pocket of the game-keeper; and of course poor Tom lost his five hundred pounds.

ART. 21.—*A Hint of the Chouan Army's having been but a Snare fabricated by the Jacobins themselves!!!* 4to. 2s. Spragg. 1801.

The atrocities of the Jacobins have been a sufficient scourge to Europe and to themselves; but of the exploit attributed to them by

Digitized by Google

this author, there seems to be neither proof nor reasonable ground for suspicion. It cannot be imagined that so long a warfare should have been carried on, and such a number of emigrant officers been engaged in the contest, without a more early discovery of the treachery by which this writer supposes all their plans were frustrated, and themselves sacrificed, for the greater part, either in the field or by the guillotine.

ART. 22.—*Proposals to Government for establishing that System of Regulations most favourable to the keeping the Price of Corn at what it ought to bear; from the Quantity of Corn grown Annually being accurately ascertained. For the best Mode of giving such Assistance to the Cultivators of the Waste Lands, as shall be safest to the Country, and most advantageous to them. With Reflexions on the Advantages and Disadvantages of Country Banks; also on the Mode and Expediency of bringing Gold into Circulation in this Country, equally in Bullion as Coin.* 8vo. 2s. Longman *and* Rees. 1801.

One proposal is, to put our farm-yards under the excise, and to publish in the county papers, four times a-year, the changes that have occurred in the said farm-yards, and the names of persons by whom purchases have been made. We would recommend to the writer to calculate the number of excisemen to be employed on this occasion, and also the quantity of newspapers which would be filled by the grain transactions of every county; and when he has done this, he will perceive something of the expense by which he will acquire a very poor insight into the quantity of grain in this kingdom. We would recommend also to this writer to read over his proposal to some intelligent man who has been a farmer, from whom he will learn how accurately an exciseman, by measuring stacks in a farm-yard, will be able to ascertain the quantity of grain to be derived from it. Will government, moreover, be, or ought it to be, at all this trouble, to satisfy an idle curiosity? If corn could be put in this manner under the excise, the next step would be to tax it: and surely, instead of throwing baits out to ministers for further burthens on the country, the zeal of all speculative men should be employed in proposing the means of freeing it from many of those which exist at present. Some writers seem not to be aware that government is instituted for very different purposes, than executing all the airy schemes of the fanciful and the speculative.

RELIGION.

ART. 23.—*Advice to a Minister of the Gospel, in the united Church of England and Ireland; being a Continuation of 'Advice to a Student in the University:' to which is added, A Sermon on the Pastoral Care. By John Napleton, D. D.* 8vo. 2s. 6d. *sewed.* Sael *and* Co. 1801.

The author follows his pupil, whom he is supposed to have superintended during his course of studies at the university, to the duties which devolve upon him in consequence of having been ordained a priest, continues his watchful care, and presents him with many useful precepts for the exercise of various offices in the church. He is first considered as a priest and an incumbent; and next successively

Digitized by Google

as an archdeacon, a chancellor, a bishop. Throughout the whole the writer keeps in view that there are solid duties to be performed, and that these preferments are not mere offices of temporal dignity and emolument. In the office of incumbent the care of a parish evidently requires residence, and the obligation to residence is well and strenuously enforced. The strict attention requisite in giving a title for holy orders is well inculcated, though the writer runs into a vulgar error when he asserts that 'ordination and the clerical character are indelible,' as even in the popish church, whence the error originated, this maxim is not acknowledged; and there have been instances of the highest dignity, that of cardinal, having been laid aside with the approbation of the pope, the ordination being annulled, and the priest becoming a married man and a temporal prince. In our own church, also, a priest may be stripped of his gown, and excommunicated. On the studies of the incumbent we see with pleasure that the writer enforces the necessity of making the Greek text of the Scriptures familiar to him, and of reviewing the whole volume of Scripture in the original languages. An incumbent who is ignorant of Greek and Hebrew seems to us unworthy of his office; and the least return he can offer to the state for the temporal benefits conferred on him is to make his Bible in Hebrew and Greek his daily study. Daily use will make it incredibly pleasant to him; and an established clergy ought to be a learned body. We despair, however, of seeing the excellent advice of this writer pursued till the bishops constitute the translation of a chapter in the Hebrew Bible an essential to the ordination of a deacon. In this case the dispute about points is of no consequence, as the candidate will have only his Bible open before him, with pen, ink, and paper, and is to deliver to the chaplain the translation in writing. A distinction should naturally be made between the examination of a deacon and a priest: from the former the mere translation of a chapter might be required; from the latter an explanation of critical difficulties in the language. —Another caution to episcopal chaplains we transcribe with great pleasure:—

'I have one particular caution to offer to my successors in this office, namely, to resist all solicitation to recommend to the bishop an imperfect candidate for deacon's orders, in the hope of finding him, by promised intervening diligence, better qualified at his examination for priest's. Generally the same causes will continue to operate: if they do not, the candidate will be substantially benefited by being postponed to a future ordination, as he will then be ordained a deacon with satisfaction and honour: if they do, the examiner will have escaped a very painful dilemma, of being driven by one error to commit a second, or of advising to leave the candidate a deacon, excluded from secular employments, in a situation neither beneficial to himself nor useful to the church.

'Literature, and sacred literature in particular, is requisite to a clergyman, not only as it is necessary to the edifying discharge of his pastoral duties, but as it forms and shows the turn of his mind, influences and implies his habits of life, fills up his time, makes him happy at home, detains him from pursuits improper in kind or ex-

Digitized by Google

cessive in degree, keeps his mind in a due tone for every work of his ministry;—in every view, it is a vital part of his character. If parents will persist in destining a child to this profession, whether qualified or not by nature and industry, and finally offer him in vain, the disappointment is severe, but might have been foreseen; and if a young man, with the advantage of an expensive education at the university, will not, from the dawning reason of sixteen to the more enlightening age of three-and-twenty, under the assistance and warnings of his tutors and governors, look forward, and qualify himself, the disappointment is alike severe; but he is less to be pitied than his partial, and frequently ill-advised, parents: and I trust that I do not exceed the bounds of candour and humanity, if, for the discouragement of dissipation and idleness, I wish you hereafter to say to such a one, in the language (nearly) of the Roman consul—"Adolescentes corrupti desidiâ ita ætatem agunt, quasi honores nostros contemnant: ita hos petunt, quasi honeste vixerint. Næ illi falsi sunt, qui diversissimas res pariter expectant, ignaviæ voluptatem, et præmia virtutis *." P. 84.

To the young incumbent this work will be an acceptable present; and if he peruse it in every gradation of his ecclesiastical functions with due care, he will be well qualified to rise, and to be an ornament in the church.

ART. 24.—*A Sermon on the Sin of Adultery, preached at Weymouth, on Sunday August 30th*, 1801. *By the Rev. M. H. Luscombe, A. B. Curate of Windsor.* 8vo. 1s. Rivingtons. 1801.

The pulpit is not the place to issue the proclamation, that 'it is now time to crush with the high hand of authority the violaters of the marriage vow,' nor to deliver a panegyric on living characters; which, however true, may render the preacher liable to a suspicion of flattery. The Gospel contains motives, and the holy Scriptures at large, instances, sufficient for the ablest preacher, without interfering with the legislature, or having recourse to modern biography.

ART. 25.—*Reflexions, occasioned by the Distresses of the Times. A Sermon, preached in the Parish Church of Leeds, being one of the Lent Lectures there for* 1801. *By the Rev. James Milner, A.M.* 8vo. 6d. Rivingtons. 1801.

From the denunciation of the prophet against wicked, and the promise of returning mercy to repentant, nations, the preacher takes occasion to inquire, whether the circumstances of the times lead us to conclude that we are in the former or the latter state? The neglect of the Sunday, the unconcern of parents for the religious education of their children, the irreligious situation of young people, particularly those engaged in manufactures, the number of prostitutes and robbers, are strong arguments against us; and we are hence exhorted to turn with the more earnestness to the paths of religion.

ART. 26.—*A Sermon preached at Durham, July 21, 1801, at the Visitation of the Honourable and Right Reverend Father in God, Shute, Lord Bishop of Durham. By Robert Gray, B. D. &c.* 4to. 2s. Rivingtons. 1801.

The advantages attendant on the mode by which the truths of the

* Sallust. Bell. Jugurth.

Digitized by Google

Gospel have been communicated, the arrangements, evidently under the divine wisdom, by which the languages and governments of nations have been made subservient to its interest, constitute the theme of this discourse, which received, and we need add nothing more, the approbation of the bishop of Durham.

ART. 27.—*Self-Sufficiency incompatible with Christianity. A Sermon, delivered at the triennial Visitation of the Right Reverend Spencer Lord Bishop of Peterborough, in the Parish Church of Daventry, June* 12, 1801. *By T. I. Twisleton, A. M. &c.* 8*vo.* 2*s.* Rivingtons. 1801.

This sermon is said to have been published by request — not, we are persuaded, by the request of the excellent prelate at whose visitation it was delivered; for to the exquisite nonsense contained in the following sentence he would not possibly add his Imprimatur. The disputer of this world 'sees not the reason why God should die that man should live.' We should be glad to know what reason this preacher can give for so strange an assumption. Is he now to be informed what heresies such an interpretation of the death of the cross has occasioned; and that some polemics undertook to assert that it was not even our Saviour who suffered death? But the idea that God himself died is too shocking to be entertained for one moment. Had the preacher declared that the second person in the Trinity died, he would have still erred, though not so grossly, from the catholic faith; for the divine nature in Christ could not be subject to death. It was his human nature only which could be affected by a human punishment.

ART. 28.—*A Sermon upon the Peace, preached at Prittlewell in Essex, on the* 18*th of October*, 1801. *By the Rev. Sir Herbert Croft, Bart. Vicar of Prittlewell.* 8*vo.* 6*d.* Rivingtons. 1801.

Sir H. Croft dedicates his sermon to the bishop of London, in which he tells his lordship that he lives in his parish. We hope his parishioners attended to the discourse, which contains many good pieces of advice, but scarcely deserved to be committed to the press, and much less to be preceded by such a dedication.

ART. 29.—*A Sermon, preached at Prittlewell in Essex, on the* 20*th of September*, 1801, *upon the Prayer of Thanksgiving to Almighty God for the late abundant Crop and favourable Harvest, first directed to be used September* 13, 1801. *By the Rev. Sir Herbert Croft, Bart. Vicar of Prittlewell.* 8*vo.* 6*d.* Rivingtons. 1801.

This sermon is dedicated to the prime minister—a long avenue to a thatched cottage. If the author continue to burden the press in this manner with his parochial labours, we may expect, in a series of dedications, a tedious account of the life, parentage, and education, of 'an old baronet.'

ART. 30.—*The Importance of Religion to the Military Life: illustrated in a Sermon preached on Sunday September 6th*, 1801, *at the Garrison-Service, in the Church of St. Peter's Port, Island of Guernsey. By Thomas Brock, A. M. &c.* 4*to.* 1*s.* 6*d.* Rivingtons. 1801.

† The following discourse was not written with a view to publica-

Digitized by Google

tion; but, influenced by his friends, the author is induced to submit it to the judgement of the public, with the diffidence of a young man who has not completed his twenty-fifth year. It was heard with considerable approbation; but the slow and dispassionate perusal of the closet will not always confirm the praise bestowed on the rapid and warm delivery from the pulpit.' P. 4.

ART. 31.—*Essay on Religion; being an Attempt to point out the unrivalled Beauty and Excellence of the Christian Doctrine, and the Necessity of paying it an early Attention. Addressed to young Persons. By John Fullagar.* 12mo. 6d. Rivingtons. 1801.

This pamphlet is written with the best intentions. That it comes from a layman will not excite a prejudice against it, in a country which is daily perusing the works of Hales, Addison, West, Lyttleton, Hartley, &c. upon similar subjects; and an apology for the recommendation of a layman is perfectly superfluous. The author seems fearful, however, that this dreadful stigma of being a layman cannot be wiped off; and tells us, that though 'tied to business, he always had an eye to the ministry.' Without such an inclination the sentiments conveyed in this work would be equally beneficial; and we recommend them to the serious and well disposed, as a proper present for young men either designed for, or actually engaged in, business, that they may hence learn in their worldly pursuits to set a value on higher enjoyments, and prepare themselves for that state in which their perishable gains will be little esteemed.

MEDICINE.

ART. 32.—*The Physician's Portable Library, or Compendium of the Modern Practice of Physic. In which the Causes, Symptoms, and Treatment of all the Diseases incident to the Human Body are clearly and fully delivered; together with the Virtues, Doses, and proper Exhibition of all the Medicinal Simples and Compositions directed in the last London and Edinburgh Pharmacopœias. To which are added, Tables of the new Names adopted by each College, and of their Reference to those formerly in Use. By Brabazon Smith, M. D.* 8vo. 5s. *Boards.* Mathews.

A *physician's* portable library should contain what he may want to refer to, out of the common course of practice or study. This is, in reality, the library of an apothecary's apprentice; though, after the first year, even *he* would disclaim it. Indeed portable libraries, medical pocket-books, and vade-mecums, are idle attempts; for so extensive and intricate is the science, that neither in respect to bulk or precision can real assistance be conveyed in a portable form. Let us take a page at random, and ask where is the physician who wants this information?

'*Mistura Camphorata* (L.). Diaphoretic, antispasmodic, diuretic; half an ounce to an ounce and half, frequently.

'*Mistura Cretacea* (L.). Absorbent; useful in diarrhœa; one ounce to three, frequently.

'*Mistura Moschata* (L.). Antispasmodic, diaphoretic; one ounce to three, frequently.

Digitized by Google

'*Mortification.* See *Sphacelus.*
'*Morus*, fructus (L.). Cooling; ad libitum. See *Syrupus.*
'*Moschus* (L. E.). Antispasmodic, diaphoretic; five grains to fifteen.
'*Mucilago Amyli* (L. E.). Used principally in glysters, as a corrector of acrimony; joined occasionally with opium in diarrhœa, tenesmus, &c.
'*Mucilago Arabici Gummi* (L. E.). Diuretic, demulcent; one dram to four.
'*Mucilago Seminis Cydonii Mali.* (L.). Demulcent; a dram or two.
'*Mucilago Tragacanthæ* (L. E.). As the foregoing.
'*Mumps.* See *Cynanche Parotidea.*
'*Myristica*, fructus nucleus (L. E.). Stimulant, aromatic, astringent; five grains to fifteen.' P. 152.

ART. 33.—*Observations on the Nature, Causes, Prevention, and Cure of Gout and Rheumatism: to which are annexed Phænomena Physiologiæ, issuing in the Cure of these Diseases. By William Peter Whyte.* 8vo. 2s. 6d. Rivingtons.

We have much 'about it, goddess, and about it,' but could scarcely find a single idea that has not been bandied through innumerable volumes on these subjects, and in as many different forms. We perceive also much learning, scattered with apparent liberality, though not always correctly applied. We were at every page ready to exclaim, *Quorsum hæc tam putida tendunt?*—when, at the end, we found an advertisement for a chemico-pneumatic apparatus, and for inoculation on an improved plan. We wish Mr. Whyte success; but, had we begun at the end, we should have escaped at least the 'honest anguish,' though, from the brevity, we were spared the 'aching head.'

ART. 34.—*Practical Surgery; containing the Description, Causes, and Treatment of each Complaint, together with the most approved Methods of Operating. By Robert White, M. D. late Practitioner in Surgery.* 8vo. 6s. 6d. *Boards.* Cadell *and* Davies.

The second edition of this work, which is indeed more correct and somewhat more extensive, has for a time escaped us. The first appeared in 1786, and was reviewed in our 65th volume. Some little circumstances noticed in that article are either altered, or the author's opinion is more particularly explained. In the chief subject of our remark, however, the error is continued. Dr. White still prefers Mr. Bromfield's (called repeatedly, in this volume, Blomfield's) plan; and though more explicit with respect to the necessity of evacuations, does not press them to the extent which we think the exigency of the case often requires. The additions to this volume are on strains and contusions, inflammation and abscess of the liver, psoas abscess, necrosis, M. Pellier's mode of treating the cataract and fistula lacrymalis, hernia cystica, nævi materni, and spina bifida; but on none of these subjects do we find any very interesting or peculiarly useful remarks, and we shall not detain the reader with minute observations.

Digitized by Google

ART. 35.—*Practical Observations on the Cure of Wounds and Ulcers on the Legs without Rest, illustrated with Cases. By Thomas Whately, Member of the Corporation of Surgeons of London.* 8vo. 7s. 6d. *Boards.* Cadell *and* Davies.

Mr. Whately's great object is to recommend the application of bandages; and, by their assistance, he thinks ulcered legs may be cured without rest, or the necessity of a horizontal posture. The pressure, however, must be steady, moderate, and uniform—of course the bandages must be applied by the surgeon himself; and very minute directions are given for this part of the management.

As the principle is not new, so we can perceive little novelty in the minuter directions. These are numerous; but the greater part, though useful, is trite and hackneyed. On the whole, we perceive little utility in this treatise; and cannot find a class, even of the earliest students, to whom it is likely to be interesting or instructive. Our author's opinion, that old ulcers may very often be safely healed, is very dangerous. Issues are not, in many instances, a sufficient substitute; and the worst consequences often threaten, which are only to be averted by again opening the ulcer.

EDUCATION.

ART. 36.—*A short and easy Introduction to the English and Italian Grammar, &c. By G. Ravizzotti.* 8vo.

M. Ravizzotti, in consequence of some suggestions from others on the prolixity and great price of his Italian grammar, and a conviction in his own mind that it was rather too voluminous for younger scholars, has prepared and sent into the world this introduction. As the reduction of size is chiefly effected by leaving out the poetry, &c. at the end of the former work, without any material alteration in the part of accidence, we repeat of this what we said of that at its publication, that it may be used by the Italian student with much advantage. The rules are given in English, translated into Italian, in order to familiarise that language to the pupil in his progress; but we wish the author had paid more attention to the English, as it is not only inelegant, but frequently ungrammatical.

ART. 37.—*Les Saisons, pour l'Enfance, &c. The Seasons, for the Use of Childhood and early Youth; or, Amusing Dialogues, moral and instructing, between a Mother and her Children. By the Countess de Fouchécour.* 12mo. Dulau. 1804.

This is the production of a mother anxious for the instruction of her children. It is a fortunate circumstance for *her* children to have so intelligent a parent; but the Seasons will not be of equal use to children in general. Every mother has not reflected so much as the countess de Fouchécour; and, without much concomitant explanation, the book can do no good: its matter is much above the comprehension of childhood and early youth.

Digitized by Google

ART. 38.—*The Juvenile Plutarch; containing Accounts of the Lives of Children, and of the Infancy of illustrious Men who have been remarkable for their early Progress in Knowledge.* 12mo. 2s. 6d. Phillips. 1801.

ART. 39.—*Visits to the Ménagerie and the Botanical Garden at Paris: containing a View of Natural History, for the Instruction of young Persons. From the French of L. F. Jaufret.* 2 *Vols.* 12mo. 4s. Phillips. 1801.

ART. 40.—*The Little Hermitage, with other Tales.* 12mo. 2s. Phillips. 1801.

ART. 41.—*Poetry for Children. Consisting of short Pieces, to be committed to Memory. Selected by Lucy Aikin.* 12mo. 2s. 6d. Phillips. 1801.

Five volumes very well adapted to the capacities of children. The Juvenile Plutarch contains the history of thirteen remarkable young personages. In the Visits to the *Ménagerie* and the Botanical Garden are some very pleasing views of animated nature. The Little Hermitage comprises three botanical stories, elucidates many technical terms, and developes many branches of the science of gardening; and the volume of poetry is very happily selected. Dispersed occasionally through these pages we meet with a number of valuable remarks, which will have a powerful effect on the moral sentiments of the young student.

'Of what importance is birth? What is the effect of riches? They often corrupt the morals. He who is worthy, he who is honest and wise, has no need of ancestors.' *Juv. Plut.* p. 38.

A more important doctrine, to such children as are intended to excel in wisdom and virtue, cannot be inculcated.

POETRY.

ART. 42.—*Tales of Wonder; written and collected by M. G. Lewis, Esq. The Second Edition.* 8vo. 7s. *Boards.* Bell. 1801.

It is impossible for any class of metaphysicians to define the precise causes of pleasure which we often see existing in the whimsical minds of many—so fastidious is man when he has once departed from the simplicity of nature, and so fanciful are the joys which he creates to himself. Amongst the many preposterous modes of delight, however, in which the mind seeks for gratification, no person we should think, among the *unenchanted* and *unenchanting* part of the world, would express a desire of becoming a raw-head-and-bloody-bones—a bugbear to children, and a terror to their nurses—an alarmist and frightener of infants and idiots—and, in return, the pity at least, if not the scorn, of the wise and intelligent. Yet, strange as it may appear to circles and societies unenamoured of goblins and magic, this wild hope of becoming terrible is the *summæ delicie* of several of our fellow-citizens. Instead of advancing in the glorious procession of truth and science, whose beams are daily gaining strength in our island, they turn with avidity to the errors of nations left far behind us in the gloom and darkness of barbarism, and are actually,

Digitized by Google

in the nineteenth century, translating works from the northern languages, which, in the sixteenth, our better-informed ancestors would have been ashamed to have seen written in English. Whether these horror-hunters will incorporate themselves into a society for the sublime rapture of terrifying one another, or to consult in what manner they may still more effectually terrify their readers, we cannot say: if they should, we have no hesitation in affirming that the author of Tales of Wonder will be complimented *nem. con.* with the president's chair.

> Tartareum ILLE manu custodem in vincla petivit,
> Ipsius a solio regis traxitque trementem. VIRGIL.

To quote from the volume before us is a task which we cannot impose upon ourselves. When Mr. Lewis sent his Monk into the world, we extracted from it a beautiful elegy * without a goblin; in the present performance we are denied the power; there is nothing but fiends and ghosts—all is hideous—all is disgusting. We will not therefore transcribe one couplet; but a *note* is at the service of our readers: and if the superstition, the filth and obscenity, contained in it, do not curdle their blood, they will fare better than we have done. It will show to what a depth the human mind may be voluntarily degraded.

'I once read in some Grecian author, whose name I have forgotten, the story which suggested to me the outline of the foregoing ballad. It was as follows:—A young man arriving at the house of a friend to whose daughter he was betrothed, was informed that some weeks had passed since death had deprived him of his intended bride. Never having seen her, he soon reconciled himself to her loss, especially as, during his stay at his friend's house, a young lady was kind enough to visit him every night in his chamber, whence she retired at day-break, always carrying with her some valuable present from her lover. This intercourse continued till accident showed the young man the picture of his deceased bride, and he recognised with horror the features of his nocturnal visitor. The young lady's tomb being opened, he found in it the various presents which his liberality had bestowed on his unknown *inamorata*.' P. 110.

ART. 43.—*Tales of Terror; with an introductory Dialogue.* 8vo. 7s. 6d. *Boards.* Bell. 1801.

We hardly know what opinion to form of the author of these poems. Some of them are composed with so serious an air, that we almost suspect them to be the progeny of the same muse who sang, or rather *screamed*, the Tales of Wonder; whilst others are certainly written *en badinant*. Be the poet who he may, his church-yard tale is a most admirable burlesque of Mr. Lewis's Cloud King. If we had room we would insert it at length; but to quarter it is to spoil it. We will however give our readers one of the shortest in the volume, and that is rather too long for our limits: it is a parody on Mallet's William and Margaret.

* See our 19th Vol. New Arr. p. 198.

Digitized by Google

'The SCULLION-SPRITE; or, The GARRET-GOBLIN.

'*A St. Giles's Tale.*

"Ah! who can see, and seeing not admire,
Whene'er she sets the pot upon the fire!
Her hands outshine the fire, and redder things;
Her eyes are blacker than the pot she brings."

SHENSTONE.

'Twas at the hour when sober cits
Their eyes in slumber close;
In bounced Bett Scullion's greasy ghost,
And pinch'd Tom Ostler's toes!

Her flesh was like a roasting pig's,
So deadly to the view;
And coal-black was her smutty hand
That held her apron blue.

So shall the reddest chops appear,
When life's last coal expires;
Such is the garb that cooks must wear,
When death has quench'd their fires.

Her face was like a raw beef-steak,
Just ready to be fried;
Carrots had budded on her cheek,
And beet-root's crimson pride.

But love had, like the fly-blow's power,
Despoil'd her buxom hue;
The fading carrot left her cheek,
She died at twenty-two!

"Awake!" she cried, "Bet Scullion bawls!
Come from her garret high;
Now hear the maid, for whom you scorn'd
A wedding-ring to buy.

"This is the hour when scullion ghosts
Their dish-clouts black resume,
And goblin cooks ascend the loft
To haunt the faithless groom!

"Bethink thee of thy tester broke,
Thy disregarded oath,
And give me back my mutton pies,
And give me back my broth.

"How could you swear my sops were nice,
And yet those sops forsake?
How could you steal my earthen dish,
And dare that dish to break?

Digitized by Google

" How could you promise lace to me,
And give it all to Nan?
How could you swear my goods were safe,
Yet lose my dripping pan?

" How could you say my pouting lip,
With purl and Hollands vies?
And why did I, sad silly fool,
Believe your cursed lies?

" Those sops, alas! no more are nice!
Those lips no longer pout!
And dark and cold's the kitchen grate!
And every spark is out!

" The hungry worm my master is,
His cook I now remain;
Cold lasts our night, till that last morn
Shall raise my crust again!

" The kitchen clock has warn'd me hence,
I've other fish to fry;
Low in her grave, thou sneaking cur,
Behold Bett Bouncer lie!"—

' The morning smiled, the stable boys
Their greasy night-caps doff'd;
Tom Ostler scratch'd his aching head,
And swearing left the loft.

' He hied him to the kitchen-grate,
But, ah! no Bett was there!
He stretch'd him on the hearth, where erst
Poor Betty plied her care!

' And thrice he sobb'd Bett Bouncer's name,
And blew his nose quite sore;
Then laid his cheek on the cold hob,
And horse rubb'd never more!' P. 111.

ART. 44.—*Tales of the Devil, from the original Gibberish of Professor Lumpwitz, S. U. S. and C. A. C. in the University of Snoringberg.* 4to. 4s. 6d. *sewed.* Egerton. 1801.

Of the sentiments of this author we can judge more decidedly than of the foregoing—but let him speak for himself.

' Should the rage for phantoms (and all that is diabolically, and agreeably frightful) have entirely subsided in this country, I know not how I shall be remunerated for the heavy expense I have been at, in purchasing the original of these Tales from the rider of a Bohemian cheesemonger. If this, however, does not prove the case, (as I trust it will not) I shall be *horridly* disappointed if the TALES OF THE DEVIL do not prove *terribly* entertaining to my readers.

Digitized by Google

'PRELUDIO.

"Now stay thee, sir Pilgrim, and hear my tale,
I crave by thy holy shells!
Sad to hear, I know, is a tale of woe,
And sad too to him that tells."

"Now sad, very like, may a tale of woe
Be to him that or hears or tells,
No pilgrim am I, but a Fishmong-er,
And these only *oyster* shells."

"No matter—if but my tale of woe
To hear out thou art willing;
And can'st open keep thine ears and thine eyes,
Do but stop—I'll give thee a shilling."

"Kind sir, not an oyster I've sold to-day,
And so sore by want I'm accurst,
Your longest tale for a shilling I'd hear,
And for two I'd hear your worst."

"Good luck to thee, brave Fishmong-er,
In sale of thine oysters and ling:
None ever would hear a tale of mine out,
But I gave him five shil-ling:

"Now down on thy breech, brave Fishmong-er;
Perhaps thou'st had a long walk?"
The Fishmonger did as he was bid,
And the stranger began to talk!' P. 3.

The ridicule in this prelude is admirable, and the burlesque tales which follow are excellently imagined: if the pandæmonium of terror-mongers can bear, without wincing, a few such floggings as this volume contains, we shall give them up as incorrigible.

DRAMA.

ART. 45.—*Mutius Scævola; or, the Roman Patriot. An Historical Drama. By W. H. Ireland.* 8vo. 2s. 6d. Badcock. 1801.

The expulsion of the Tarquins from Rome by Lucius Junius Brutus, for the violation of Lucretia by Sextus, is a story well known to all our readers. On an event immediately following that transaction the author has founded the drama before us.

Tarquin applied for assistance to Porsenna, king of Clusium, to reinstate him in the possession of his crown. We must here notice a small mistake of Mr. Ireland, who calls Porsenna by the general name of king of Etruria, instead of defining him to be king of the Clusini, one of the twelve nations of Etruria. In the second consulate of Poplicola, Rome was invested by Porsenna, and so furious an attack made, that the Etrurians had nearly entered the city, the two consuls being wounded and carried out of the battle.

In the third consulate of Poplicola, Titus Lucretius, the brother of Lucretia, being his collegue, the Romans were defeated and

Digitized by Google

five thousand men slain; at this period Mutius Scævola formed the bold resolution of relieving Rome, by entering the camp of the Clusini and killing Porsenna: in the execution of this design, however, he failed; for, instead of the king, he stabbed his secretary. The magnanimity exercised both by Porsenna and Scævola, on the discovery, led to happy consequences; for they were struck with admiration of each other's virtue, and the two nations concluded a peace.

We do not think Mr. Ireland's performance entitled to much commendation. An old story thrown into blank verse will not be very entertaining, unless the sentiments be strong, the diction spirited, and the incidents bold and unexpected. This is not the case in the present drama—the author is always languid, frequently obscure. From a number of instances of the latter defect, we will select one. Cloelia asserts,

'Mutius, I seal my faith upon my heart.'

The best excuse we can make for these '*nugæ canoræ*,' is, that Mr. Ireland did not take time to consider what he was writing. We certainly do not understand them.

ART. 46.—*Elisha; or, the Woman of Shunem. A new sacred Oratorio. Written by Thomas Hull, of the Theatre-Royal Covent-Garden. Set to Music by Dr. Arnold.* 8vo. 1s. Cawthorn. 1801.

It will not do to bring works of this nature to the test of criticism. They are generally a mixture of a small portion of Scripture, with a great deal of rhodomontade of the author's own; but, as they are only vehicles for music, we must even so let them pass.

NOVELS.

ART. 47.—*The Welshman, a Romance. By William Earle, jun. 4 Vols. 12mo. 16s. sewed.* Earle *and* Hemet. 1801.

This romance is a most perfect jumble of absurdities, a hodge-podge of unmixable ingredients. We have a convent of nuns presented to us the day after we had parted from a *Druid*, and such a Druid too—one who was acquainted with the *Catholic* doctrine of purgatory. It is a pity that William Earle, jun. had not perused the History of England used by schoolmistresses and governesses, before he ventured to write on the subject himself. He would there have found that Suetonius Paulinus extirpated the Druids, by roasting them in their own fires, more than a thousand years before the birth of either Edward I. or prince Llewellin. We cannot offer a better excuse for him than the apology which he puts into the mouth of one of his characters.

'I wish I could entertain you better in unfolding my ideas;—I am but an uninformed youth, without the power of rhetoric; and crowding my thoughts, rapid as they cross me, without studying what I am going to say.' Vol. ii. p. 121.

Digitized by Google

It is not however in our power to offer so good an apology for some other parts of the work. The narration of Madoc's behaviour to Gunifred on the couch is certainly too libidinous: and the same epithet will almost equally apply itself to the different descriptions of Emma and Athena. We really wonder that the relatives, to whom the novel is dedicated, had not forbidden the young man from making such ideas public—they, assuredly, are not becoming in a stripling who has 'scarcely seen his twentieth year,' any more than are the loose thoughts on marriage scattered through the volumes. When we give also the following confusion of *tenses*, &c. as a sample of the language, the reader will be satisfied that Mr. Earle's *fame* would not have suffered if the romance of the Welshman had never been printed.

'A victory over the English was not to be gained but with the loss of many lives; many widows that went wives to bed would rise with the next morning's sun, and many that had parents shall be orphaned; the flaming sword of war shall cut short the days of the brave, and the blood of Britons shall clot their parent earth.' Vol. i. p. 225.

Art. 48.—*Mysterious Friendship; a Tale.* 2 *Vols.* 12*mo.* 8*s. sewed.* Earle *and* Hemet.

The virtuous and innocent actions of two rural families in Devonshire, whose respective masters are with their regiment in America, are the subject matter of this novel. It contains no one incident that has not been many times represented in other works of this nature; yet it may be perused with pleasure by persons fond of novel-reading; for, generally speaking, there is nothing in it to find fault with, unless it be the folly of the catastrophe. William Bennet must, forsooth, turn out in the end to be a lord, by the *hackneyed* method of being changed at nurse; without the probability of becoming better by the practice of one additional virtue, or in any other wise, as far as we see, being an iota more respectable.

MISCELLANEOUS LIST.

Art. 49. — *Remarks on the Character of Richard the Third; as played by Cooke and Kemble.* 8*vo.* 1*s.* 6*d.* Parsons. 1801.

'The two winter theatres being announced to open with the tragedy of Richard the Third, naturally gave rise to an idea of competition. The writer of these pages *being* entirely unacquainted with any performer off the stage, must certainly be considered an impartial judge.' p. 3.

There are two positions laid down, which at least appear to us to be doubtful. Why must competition be the necessary consequence of two theatres playing the same piece? Or why must a man, because he is impartial, be a judge of what he pretends to write upon? In reply to the first, we should hope that two bodies of men of liberal sentiment would not envy one another when both are so bountifully protected, would not 'let their eye be evil because the public are good:' and to the second we must say, after reading this pamphlet

Digitized by Google

through, that we question *much* the author's judgement, and *more* his impartiality.

ART. 50.—*Kemble and Cooke: or, a Critical Review of a Pamphlet published under the Title of 'Remarks on the Character of Richard the Third, as played by Cooke and Kemble.' With other Critical Remarks on the Performances of these two Gentlemen.* 8vo. 1s. 6d. Westley. 1801.

This pamphlet, in answer to the former article, is written with so much warmth and spirit, that we can hardly question its being the production of one of Mr. Kemble's intimate friends. The author must forgive us for distrusting him when he says he does not know that gentleman. So much earnestness would hardly be employed, we think, for a stranger. If it really be so, Mr. Kemble is much obliged to him. In the first part of his review the writer deserves considerable reprehension: his eagerness to vindicate his friend makes him forget that manners make the man, and he descends almost to scurrility; but, as he goes on, this abuse ceases, and his language becomes more moderate. At the conclusion are made a great many pertinent observations in reply to the author of 'Remarks,' which evince a great share of critical ability, and which we hope have convinced his adversary of the impropriety of his publication.

ART. 51.—*An historical and practical Essay on the Culture and Commerce of Tobacco. By William Tatham.* 8vo. 6s. *Boards.* Vernor *and* Hood. 1801.

Our author, who has long resided in Virginia, gives a particular account of the cultivation of the tobacco-plant, and its management, in a commercial view; and traces the various alterations in the demand which fashion or political interests have occasioned. It is by no means evident that this plant is indigenous in the new world; and, in every vestige which history has left, it appears to be cultivated in every part of America. If any portion of the new continent can claim it as its own, the Windward Islands or South America will be found to merit the distinction. To the history we have no important additions; culture, management, package, exportation, &c. of tobacco, are detailed with minuteness, and apparently with truth. The cultivation and the exportation are gradually declining. Those who are interested in the subject will find much useful information in this volume, detailed with accuracy and perspicuity.

ART. 52.—*A Letter, humbly addressed to the most Rev. and Right Rev. the Archbishops and Bishops of the Church of England.* 8vo. Cobbett *and* Morgan. 1801.

This letter is an offspring of the Porcupine press. It points out to the bishops a truth too well known, that 'some of the clergy are become most notorious schismatics;' for when a minister of the church officiates in any place of public worship, independent on episcopal jurisdiction, he officiates in schism. This is justly called a *malum in se;* and the bishops are requested to suspend the delinquents. To this we can have no objection; but when the writer would pre-

Digitized by Google

clude the use of the church liturgy by any one who is not of the church, we cannot see any possible good purpose such intolerance would produce. By using the church liturgy, the sectaries not only give a testimony to its excellence, but prepare their hearers for a better union with the establishment. The abuse of the act of toleration is ridiculous: let the church be maintained if the legislature please; but let not those who differ from it, and follow their own ways of worship, be injured. If Gospel preaching by illiterate persons be become a grievance, it may easily be removed by the more earnest preaching of the bishops and their clergy. Let zeal be opposed by zeal; and the state will receive no injury if it prevent only religious polemics from acts of public outrage against each other. We applaud highly the attempt to afford the poor better accommodation in the body of the church; but the evident drift of the letter, to tighten the strings of the church instrument, and to infringe on the act of toleration, will, we trust, meet with no encouragement.

ART. 53.—*The Life of ********* Esq. with the Circumstance of his Conversion, under the preaching of the Gospel at Providence Chapel, in London. Being a Testimonial of unmerited free Grace, and the Sovereignty of God in the Choice of his elect People. Written by himself.* 8vo. 1s. Priestly. 1801.

********* esq. the son of an old-clothesman in Monmouth-street, was apprenticed to a chimney-sweeper, which occupation he left for that of a pickpocket. The methodist-meetings afforded him practice; but, in the pursuit of his profession, he was arrested by the energies of the preacher, and instantaneously converted. It was difficult at first to reconcile his practice to his new faith; but a due consideration that he was now one of the Lord's elect got the better of his carnal and natural scruples, and he continued the devotee and the pickpocket till he had amassed a sufficient sum to take the business and house of a pawnbroker. His faith he here retained; the dangerous employment of a pickpocket gave way to one more lucrative, in which he assiduously exercised every knavish trick, covering them with the consoling thought, that however foully he might act he never could finally fall from grace. His business so prospered, that he soon acquired a sufficiency to purchase an estate, and to become a magistrate for the county, in which capacity, as in every other, whether of brother, father, husband, tradesman, he showed himself devoid equally of honesty, virtue, and Christian charity, but full of the appearance and cant of religion. That such a character might exist we cannot doubt; but it would be unjust to associate Calvinism with such villany. The life here presented is a caricature of the principles of that sect, and in this point of view it may be usefully presented to those Calvinistic tradesmen who are in danger of palliating their vices by their religious professions—to such as are tricking, over-reaching, morose, canting, intolerant, uncharitable. On the other hand, an equally strong caricature may be drawn of the mere moral man, with a better education, who is constant to his church, but as strongly attached to playhouses, masquerades, balls, routs, bathing-places, dinners, and the whole routine of idle amusements.

Digitized by Google

ART. 54.—*The Detector of Quackery; or, Analyses of Medical, Philosophical, Political, Dramatic, and Literary Impostures. By John Corry.* 8vo. 4s. *Boards.* Hurst. 1801.

To bring empiricism of any description under the lash of ridicule is one mode of establishing the credit of legitimate science; therefore he that laughs successfully at quackery deserves the thanks of society. We can by no means, however, allow Mr. Corry to deserve the title he has assumed to himself. A man must be profoundly read both in books and men before he can become an 'analyser of medical, philosophical, political, dramatic, and literary' merit; or know what is 'imposture' in these branches, and what is not. The work before us is no more than a set of flippant animadversions, sometimes well, and sometimes ill directed.

ART. 55.—*The Force of Contrast, or Quotations, accompanied with Remarks, submitted to the Consideration of all who have interested themselves in what has been called the Blagdon Controversy.* 8vo. 6d. Cadell *and* Davies. 1801.

The Blagdonian controversy is, we understand, and we are happy to hear it, at an end, by the reconciliation of the parties, and the restoration of the curate to his charge. The intent of this work is to injure the character of the curate, and to convict him guilty of various misrepresentations and false assertions. As to several of the charges here adduced, we can upon a very slight examination pronounce him innocent, and easily conceive that he may have brought forward some points without sufficient information: but we can by no means allow that a clergyman, defending himself from a very severe attack urged against him by powerful antagonists, is to be held up to the world in the light which would be most agreeable to the wishes of this nameless pamphleteer. The question is now at rest: May the parties on both sides act up to their profession, and forgive!

CORRESPONDENCE.

For want of room, we are obliged to postpone our Reply to Dr. Montucci's 'Answer' to the conductors of the Critical Review, respecting Chinese Literature, until next month, when it will most certainly appear.

Digitized by Google

THE

CRITICAL REVIEW.

FEBRUARY, 1802.

ART. I.—*Outline of the Mineralogy of the Scottish Isles; with Mineralogical Observations made in different Parts of the Mainland of Scotland, and Dissertations upon Peat and Kelp. By Robert Jameson.* 2 *Vols.* 4*to.* 1*l.* 11*s.* 6*d. Boards.* White.

SINCE the celebrated Swedish chemist Bergman instituted, in 1782, the new and precise principles of mineralogy which have since been received in all European countries, the progress of this important science has been surprisingly rapid. Yet, in England, zoölogy and the fashionable study of botany continue to attract more attention, and the students of mineralogy are comparatively few. This science is here also rather theoretical than practical; rather derived from specimens in cabinets, than from laborious travels and acute observation of the substances in their native positions, and with their original affinities and gradations. This circumstance is truly surprising, when we consider the variety of practical volumes which have been published on the continent; while Great-Britain has been distinguished, from remote ages, by its mines of tin, and its whole manufactures and prosperity rest upon those of coal; not to mention that its monarch is possessed of celebrated mines in Germany. But as mineralogy is a far more difficult science than zoölogy or botany, it was to be expected that it should be the last in the progression of the three natural kingdoms; and, when the two former shall have been exhausted and dismissed, it will probably succeed them in the general estimation.

To point out the great importance of mineralogy in most other scientific pursuits, or as a great mean of national wealth and prosperity, would be a waste of time. The advantages which Russia, Austria, Saxony, and many other countries, derive from their native mines of the precious metals are universally acknowledged; and, far from tending to discourage agriculture or manufactures, the discovery of a mine has stimulated every species of industry. Superficial inquirers have however argued, from the example of Spain, that mines are destructive of national prosperity. This is a mere prejudice and

Digitized by Google

vulgar error; for, if it were not for the mines, Spain (so much degraded by other radical causes) would long since have vanished from the list of European kingdoms. Mr. Townsend, in his Travels, and even the Spanish writers themselves, have pointed out the real causes of the degradation of that kingdom, which have not the smallest connexion with the mines or with precious metals. The establishment of the Inquisition, which has annihilated all mental energy, the prejudices of the numerous nobles against industry, the traveling flocks of sheep which depopulate the country, the want of farms and farm-houses, while the peasants live in distant villages, &c. &c. are all native radical causes of decay; and if the Spaniards had well-regulated laws and customs, and a temperate share of English freedom, the mines of Peru would, like our commerce, only supply additional stimulants and rewards to industry. Besides, the example is not applicable; for, even if distant colonial mines were prejudicial to a state, the argument cannot apply to native mines, which we know, from so many practical instances, to be of superlative advantage.

In a more private point of view, it is to be regretted that studious men, and connoisseurs in general, do not pay more attention to mineralogy, the principles of which are of easy acquisition. The specimens also not only are unperishable, but may be inspected at all times in their native state, and are within the purchase of a moderate income. Shells only please the eye, and are adapted to female amusement. Insects soon decay, and larger animals require great space and expense. A dry herbal is little pleasing, and plants cannot be studied at all seasons. Yet zoölogy and botany may be studied from prints, while it is impossible to delineate or colour a mineral with any near approach to nature; and the texture and weight, which are most essential considerations, cannot be represented. Hence the study of mineralogy must be attended by specimens, and a small collection supply the want of prints. It is impossible to understand numerous passages of history and of the classics, not to mention treatises on the arts of architecture and sculpture, and books of travels, without some skill in mineralogy. The mistakes arising from ignorance of this science are infinite; and we have seen the obelisks of Egypt pronounced to be formed of an artificial compound by travelers otherwise respectable, who did not know that there are vast chains of mountains of red granite! To travelers in general we must recommend this science as indispensable; for their mistakes are sometimes as gross as if they called a tiger an elephant, or a willow an oak. If they possess a small tincture or rather tinge of the science, it is derived from the writings of sir John Hill, whose works are now as much antiquated as those of Paracelsus in chemistry. Mr. Kirwan's Elements should be studied by every traveler,

Digitized by Google

who means to describe ancient edifices, or even the common features of a country.

The work now before us has the advantage of being founded on modern principles, and is in other respects deserving of considerable approbation. But the author's self-importance, which is too apparent in the rapid sufficiency of many of his decisions, has led him to publish in two thin quarto volumes what might have appeared in an octavo; and a great part of the work is a mere re-publication of his own treatise on the Shetland Isles, printed some years ago. This is unfair, as the purchaser not only must pay a great price for a little information, but must again buy what he probably before possessed. If the author had sedulously endeavoured to stop the sale of his work, and injure his own reputation, he could not have acted in a more effectual manner.

The preface is in the following terms.

'I undertook the journeys, of which I now presume to lay the notes before the public, in order to acquire, from actual observation, a knowledge of the mineralogy of the Scottish Isles.

'I have chosen the form of a journal, because I wished to convey the information I had gleaned in the style of detailed observation, and in that order which the appearance of the country naturally suggested. But, in adopting this form, I am anxious to caution the reader against expecting that entertainment, and kind of information, which form the ground-work of the many journals through the more interesting parts of our island. If any one shall find this Outline of the mineralogy of these countries deficient in incident, in episodes and stories, and in descriptions of picturesque and romantic scenery; let him recollect, that to indulge in such descriptions was incompatible with the design of this work. I do not despise those ornaments; and I hope that I have not been insensible to the emotions which naturally arise from the retired and striking scenes which often burst upon me in the unfrequented tracts which my pursuits led me to explore: but I have thought it foreign to my purpose to obtrude these things upon the public.

'Another resolution I had formed to myself, and which partly indeed led me to choose the form of a journal, was, to shun the fascinating evil of speculation and hypothesis, which mars all faithful observation. It would ill suit my talents to venture upon deep speculation, were I inclined; and perhaps the state of mineralogical knowledge forbids it. It is a fitter task for me to record faithfully what I have myself examined, and to give a fair report of the materials which were collected, than to expose myself, by the form or arrangement of the work, to the danger of having the facts twisted and perverted by hypothesis, the rage for which is as remarkable in this as in the other sciences.

'While, in mineralogical pursuits, there is much to interest a philosophical mind, the object of true value is its application to economical purposes. I fear that the theories of the formation of the earth, interesting as they are, often mislead the mind, and per-

Digitized by Google

vert the understanding; and those who yield to them become so involved in delusive speculations, so blind to fact and experience, that, like Archimedes, they find but one thing wanting to raise worlds.

'Of the utility of this science there can be no question; more particularly when it is freed from the vague suppositions of the theorist. It is a ground-work, without which the observations of the geologist, and the labours of the miner, will ever be uncertain, and of little utility. It is a science, the cultivation of which will raise a country to importance, by exciting new sources of industry, even in situations where the labours of the husbandman will be employed in vain. But, though I am well convinced that the importance of every thing in mineralogy is in proportion to its accuracy, I would not be understood to represent these notes as a complete account of the mineralogy of the countries of which they treat—I give them to the public as an imperfect outline. The mineralogical history of a country is to be accomplished only by studying at leisure all the varieties and disposition of the strata and veins, and the appearances of the mountains and valleys: an investigation which the utmost care, in a rapid survey, must leave in many particulars imperfect, especially when the mineralogist is perplexed with the difficulties of traveling among unfrequented islands.

'I have in this, as in a former work, separated the particular account of the strata and veins from that of the particular fossils; as the common method of conjoining them appears often to lead to confusion, and can never be sufficiently correct. In describing the fossils, the method and nomenclature of the best mineralogists has been followed. The chemical characters, which form even the foundation of many mineralogical systems, I have seldom employed; from a conviction that the chemical part of mineralogy, notwithstanding the late improvements in the art of analysis, is still to be considered as imperfect. We have only to observe the contradictory results obtained by the best chemists in decomposing the same fossil, to be convinced that the analysis of the present day, although much improved since the time of Bergman, is still of no very great utility in mineralogy.

'The drawings of scenery, and the mineralogical plans, which accompany this work, were executed by the elegant pencil of my friend Mr. Charles Bell. In the views of scenery, he has happily expressed the different characters which the rocks assume from the effects of the weather—a circumstance which renders them the more valuable. The mineralogical plans are of much consequence in elucidating several curious facts, which otherwise would with difficulty have been understood. These engravings are not to be judged of as picturesque representations; they were not intended as ornaments, nor were they selected as being the most beautiful—the design being to mark the characteristic features of the scene, not as a landscape, but as a mineralogical delineation.' Vol. i. p. v.

This expression of the weather is a whimsical effort of Mr. Jameson's imagination. If he mean that the plates look weather-beaten, we have no objection.

Digitized by Google

In an introduction, our author gives some account of Werner's system of rocks, the most difficult branch of mineralogy, particularly so far as concerns keralite or petrosilex, grunstein, amygdaloïd, trap, and basalt. But Mr. Jaméson shows a woeful penury of language when he divides rocks into 'primary, *transition*, and stratified.' This poor substantive *transition* is, throughout the book, pressed into the service of an adjective, as if Mr. Jaméson did not know that *transitive* is an English word!

Lehman first divided rocks into primary and secondary; Werner added the transitive, volcanic, and alluvial. Of all the provinces of the three natural kingdoms, the study of rocks is the most difficult; and we should rejoice to see an ample compilation on the subject. Metals, salts, inflammables, gems, &c. &c. are sufficiently known; but the study of the grandest features of nature is still in its infancy, though the Alps have been ably described by de Saussure.

'The primitive strata are the following: granite, gneiss, micaceous shistus [*schistus*], ardesia, sienite, porphyry, primitive limestone, primitive greenstone, greenstone shistus, serpentine, quartz, pitchstone, and topaz rock. Granite is considered by Werner as the fundamental rock, or that upon which all others are laid, and it is but very rarely that it alternates with other rocks. It is disposed in layers or strata, which are often enormously thick, and frequently horizontal, and extend thus for many miles through a whole chain of mountains. All the other primary strata alternate with each other, but never with the transition or stratified rocks. The greenstone, wacken, and pitchstone, are the only exceptions, the two first being common to the three first-mentioned formations, but the pitchstone only to the primary, and stratified, or flotzgeburge.

'The *transition*, or *uebergangsgeburge*, comprehend all those rocks, the lowermost strata of which contain few or no petrifactions: in the higher they are more abundant; but only petrifactions, the originals of which no longer exist. These mountains also abound in metallic veins and in grottoes. Those of Antiparos, Crete, &c. are in this kind of rock, as are the Hartz metalliferous mountains, and those of Derbyshire. They seem to have been formed after the primitive, and earlier than the stratified *(flotzgeburge)* rock. The strata of this formation are the following: grawacken, grawacken slate, sandstone, some species of ardesia, greenstone, mandelstone, limestone, and Dr. Reuss conjectures that some species of sienite and porphyry may belong to this class of rocks.

'The *stratified (flotzgeburge)* appear to have been formed after the transition rocks. They consist of sandstone, limestone, argillite, with numerous petrifactions; also basalt, shistose porphyry, pitchstone, greenstone, wacken, and the various coal strata.

'From the view of these three formations, we observe that the greenstone and wacken occur in every one of them; but the basalt is peculiar to the stratified rocks.

'The *volcanic* comprehend the various stony substances altered

Digitized by Google

by action of fire: these are, lava, pumice, volcanic ashes, and volcanic tuff.

'The *alluvial* consist of gravel, sand, clay, &c. and are the débris of the other strata.' Vol. i. p. xv.

This *greenstone* for *grunstein* is again an error of ridiculous and constant recurrence. The German is better; and Mr. Jameson might as well put *red-stone* for *ruby*.

The remainder of the introduction we shall transcribe, as it is an abstract of the whole book, and may give our readers such a general view as we should ourselves have compiled.

'PRIMARY ROCKS.

'*Granite.*—This rock forms but a small portion of the Scottish isles, it being found only in the isle of Arran, and in the lower part of Mull called Ross, and in the Shetland islands. Upon the main land, however, I observed it forming mountains in Sutherlandshire; a considerable part of the county of Aberdeenshire seems to be formed of it; and also the lofty mountain of Cruachan, upon the west coast. Granite veins are pretty frequent in several of the islands, as in Arran, where they traverse the common granite, and in Coll, Tiree, Rona, the Orkney and Shetland islands, &c. where they traverse micaceous shistus, gneiss, or hornblende slate. Upon the mainland, in the route from Bernera to Perth, the granite veins are extremely common.

'*Gneiss.*—This rock I observed in Coll, Tiree, Rasay, Rona, in the Shetland islands, and in several places upon the mainland of Scotland; in particular, it forms the summit of the high mountain called Ben Lomond. It sometimes alternates with micaceous shistus and hornblende rock, and it is traversed by granite veins, as is the case in Coll, Rona, &c.

'*Micaceous Shistus.*—This rock forms a portion of the isles of Arran, Bute, and Mull; it is just to be observed in Coll, but a very considerable extent of the Shetland islands are [*is*] composed of it. In the mainland it appears to extend through the whole district of Cowal, and to the extremity of the isthmus of Cantyre, and in all the country from Bernera to Dunkeld; and from Dunkeld to Loch Lomond by Inverarray, the micaceous shistus is the prevalent rock. Upon the east coast it is frequent among the other primary strata. It alternates with shistose quartz in the island of Mull, and with hornblende and gneiss in the island of Coll; and it is to be observed in several places passing to ardesia, and it is traversed by granite veins, and has pieces of granite inclosed in it.

'*Ardesia.*—Primitive argillaceous shistus. This rock occurs in Arran, Bute, Isla, Jura, Easdale, and Seil. In Isla there is a species of it which contains pieces of granite, which, however, seem to have been formed at the same time with the ardesia. In Easdale, Seil, Bute, and Arran, it is quarried for economical purposes; but the slate of Easdale is by far the best.

'*Sienite.*—A rock nearly allied to sienite seems to form the craig

Digitized by Google

of Ailsa; it also forms part of the island of Arran, and the lofty Cullin mountains in the island of Skye.

'*Porphyry.*—I observed fragments of porphyry among the granite mountains in the island of Arran, which is probably of primitive formation; and the porphyry, which forms so considerable a part of the hill of Glamoscard in Skye, seems to be of primitive formation.

'*Primitive Limestone*, or *Marble.*—This rock occurs in vertical strata at I-columb-kill, also in the island of Tirie, and in several parts of the mainland. I observed it alternating with primary rocks, particularly at Portsoy, where it is in vertical strata, and alternates with talcaceous shistus and serpentine.

'*Primitive Greenstone.*—I have not met with this rock in any part of Scotland excepting in the island of Islay, yet I think it very probable that a careful examination may discover it in many places.

'*Serpentine.*—There are no strata of this rock in the Hebrides, nor the Orkney islands; but in Shetland it forms extensive hills, and there it seems evidently to be of primitive formation. At the interesting spot, Portsoy, there are great vertical strata of serpentine alternating with marble, talcaceous, and hornblende shistus.

'*Quartz.*—In the islands of Isla and Jura there are mountains of granular quartz, and it is there to be observed alternating with and passing into micaceous shistus. In the isle of Coll there are also considerable rocks of granular quartz. In the island of Tirie I observed the rare appearance of a vein of granular quartz traversing strata of micaceous shistus and hornblende slate. In Caithness the mountain of Scaraban is composed of quartz; and at Portsoy there is a hill which affords shistose quartz. In many places veins of quartz are to be observed traversing the primary strata, and in the island of Bute there is a quartz vein which presents appearances irreconcileable with the Plutonic theory.

'*Pitchstone.*—The only species of this stone which I have ever seen, that may be considered as primary, is that upon the hill of Glamoscard in the island of Skye. It there seems to alternate with porphyry, but of this I am not yet certain. In the island of Arran there are appearances of pitchstone in the form of veins traversing the granite; but as all veins are of an after-formation to the rocks which they traverse, this cannot be reckoned equally old with the granite, or other primitive rocks.

'TRANSITION ROCKS *(Uebergangsgeburge).*

'*Grawacken.*—This is a rare rock in the districts through which I passed. The only appearance I ever noticed was a small portion lying on ardesia in the island of Seil.

'*Greenstone.*—The greenstone of the island of Mull appears to belong to this formation, as it is found near to limestone that contains belemnites.

'*Limestone.*—This species is found in the island of Mull, and contains in it cornu Ammonis and belemnites; hence I reckon it to belong to the transition rocks.

Digitized by Google

'STRATIFIED ROCKS *(Flotzgeburge)*.

'*Sandstone.*—Of this I observed two kinds, the siliceous and argillaceous.

'The siliceous does not frequently occur. The sandstone of the island of Rume approaches nearly to this kind; and in the Orkney islands there are strata of siliceous sandstone that alternate with argillaceous sandstone. Argillaceous sandstone forms the Cumbray islands, the south extremities of Bute and Arran; and it also appears in the islands of Seil, Mull, Eigg, Skye, Rasay, and Scalpa. Almost the whole of the Orkney islands are composed of argillaceous sandstone; but it forms a very small portion of the Shetland islands. It also skirts the east coast of Scotland, from the Pentland Frith to the small fishing-town called Buckie; and again this sandstone makes its appearance near to Aberdeen, and continues along the shore all the way to the Frith of Forth.

'*Limestone.*—In the island of Arran there are considerable strata of limestone, which is covered by argillaceous sandstone; and in some places the limestone and sandstone alternate. In the Orkneys limestone is to be observed covered by sandstone, and even traversed by veins of sandstone.

'*Argillite* with numerous shells is found in the island of Arran, and in the island of Eigg.

'*Basalt.*—This rock, which, as we have before observed, is peculiar to the flotzgeburge, is found in almost every part of Scotland, either in strata or in veins. I observed it disposed in strata in the island of Seil, at Oban, in the islands of Mull, Eigg, Canna, and Skye; and these strata either alternate with argillaceous sandstone, wacken, or greenstone. Frequently also veins of basalt traverse these strata.

'*Basalt Veins.*—These veins are extremely common in most of the Hebrides, but are rarely to be observed in the Shetland or Orkney islands. I observed them traversing granite, gneiss, micaceous shistus, sienite, porphyry, hornblende slate, sandstone, and limestone. In the island of Arran there are several very remarkable veins which are partly formed of basalt. Thus in Glencloy there is a vein, (traversing clay porphyry), which is composed of basalt in the middle, but upon one side is sandstone breccia, and on the other is hard siliceous sandstone. At Tormore, upon the west side of the island of Arran, there are several other very remarkable veins partly formed of basalt.

'*Basalt Tuff.*—I observed this rock at Dumbarton castle, and in the islands of Mull and Canna, where it always accompanies rocks of trap formation. In the island of Canna it is remarkable for having pieces of wood inclosed.

'*Pitchstone.*—This curious fossil is found very frequently in the island of Arran, but generally in the form of veins. These veins traverse the common argillaceous sandstone, and are often of great magnitude. It is also disposed in stratified veins along with other substances at Tormore in Arran. In the island of Mull it seems to lie between sandstone and basalt; but in Eigg it forms considerable

Digitized by Google

veins traversing basalt. This fossil, which was before considered as very rare, is thus shown not to be so uncommon; and I have lately learned that it has been observed in veins traversing sandstone in Morven, and in veins traversing basalt at Ardnamurchan.

'*Greenstone.*—The country between the primary strata at Dunkeld, and the banks of the Frith of Forth, presents many appearances of flotz greenstone; and in the same tract there is also wacken of a similar formation.

'*Coal.*—In the island of Arran there is a stratum of blind coal inclosed in sandstone. In Mull, Eigg, Canna, Skye, it is observed always stratified with basalt or wacken.

'VOLCANIC ROCKS * have never been discovered in Scotland.

'ALLUVIAL.—Of these there are examples in the Highland valleys, where the débris from the mountains are deposited in beds and covered by heath. The great banks of sand, and the immense beds of peat which we find sometimes alternating with beds of clay or sand, are of this kind.' Vol. i. p. xviii.

The account of Arran the author before published with his Shetland Islands; and it here, by the help of very loose printing, occupies half the first volume! We refer our readers to our account of Mr. Jaméson's former publication (Vol. 28, p. 24, New Arr.). Werner is not a man of classical learning; and his *syenite* is erroneously taken from Pliny, with whom it merely and solely implies *red granite*. We know not whence our author has taken the unclassical term *shistus*, instead of *schistus*, whose very essence and sound he thus destroys.

The mineralogy of Arran is followed by that of Bute, Isla (Ilay), Jura, and Mull. Our author did not visit Staffa, and has not even seen the exterior western chain from Lewis to Bernera! Hence we may judge of the fitness of the general title of the book which has been thus hastily obtruded upon the public, as if the author were impatient to communicate his great discoveries!

As our readers will not be so sanguine in their admiration, we shall content ourselves with extracting the short account of two little isles, and return to the second volume at some future opportunity.

'SEIL.—This island, about three miles long, and two miles broad, is separated from the island of Easdale by a strait a few hundred feet broad, and from the mainland by a narrow pass, over which a bridge has been thrown. The island is in general flat, yet not without hills, from the highest of which we have a pleasant view of the many small isles scattered over the ocean, with the distant mountains of Mull and Jura.

'The greater part of the island is composed of rocks of primitive

'* Of the pseudo-volcanic rocks, which are different species of rocks that have been exposed to accidental fire, we have instances in Fifeshire. Upon the shore between Dysart and Easter Weimyss I picked up several fine specimens of porcellanite, which seems to be the clay that accompanies the coal altered by fire, as masses of scoria and charcoal still adhered to it.'

Digitized by Google

formation, and these are micaceous shistus and ardesia. Basaltic veins are also very frequent, traversing both kinds of strata; and, where the stratified matter is washed away, or has fallen down by decomposition, the perpendicular veins appear often like basaltic craigs, and, at first sight, may be taken for strata. Considerable veins of quartz are also to be observed traversing the primary strata upon the south and east shores of the island; and, near to the southern extremity, I observed a vein of quartz which contained a quantity of iron pyrites, but apparently too small to be of any importance.

'Besides these primary strata, I observed, upon several parts of the island, small portions of the transition (uebergangsgeburge) and flotz rocks (flotzgeburge). Near to Mr. Campbell's house I observed the ardesia covered by grauwacken, and both apparently traversed with the same basalt vein, which leads us to suppose that they were formed at the same time; and, in support of this, I may mention, that German mineralogists have observed these rocks to alternate. Upon the side of the island opposite to Easdale, we have an appearance of flotz strata. Immediately upon the shore, I observed red-coloured argillaceous sandstone, stratified with sandstone breccia and basalt, and the whole traversed with basaltic veins. There are also quarries of ardesia tegularis in some parts of the island. But the principal attention of the proprietors is turned to the island of Easdale, where the slate has hitherto been found in great quantity.

'EASDALE.—This island is about half a mile long, and of the same breadth, and is celebrated for its having afforded the best and greatest quantity of ardesia tegularis of any part of equal extent in Great-Britain. A very considerable portion of the island is composed of ardesia tegularis, and this is traversed by basalt veins. The ardesia, where in contact with the basalt, is useless, being shivery, and breaking into small pieces, unfit for the making of slates: it is also equally bad where veins of quartz or limestone occur.

'The island is now cut very low, excepting a small portion at the south end; and levels have been made out to the sea, to carry off the rain water. As the greater part of the island is now upon a level with the sea, it is plain that the raising of slates must be abandoned, or continue to be worked, at a considerable expense, by means of machinery; which would probably be a bad plan, when we consider the extent and excellence of the rival quarries at Ballyhulish. The most judicious arrangement would certainly be, to open more extensive quarries in the neighbouring isles of Luing and Seil, where, in all probability, after the ground is properly cleared, good slates may be found.

'The ardesia in this island was first quarried about one hundred years ago, but was for a long time of little importance, as sandstone flag and tiles were generally used for roofing houses. As the use of slates became more prevalent, the quarries were enlarged; and the present managers having obtained a very favorable lease, these quarries have been wrought to so great an extent, that 5,000,000 slates are annually shipped from this island. The number of workmen is at present about 300; and they are divided into quar-

riers and day-labourers. The quarriers are paid annually at a certain rate for every thousand slates: from 10*d.* to 15*d.* I believe, as their work has been attended with more or less difficulty. The day-labourers are employed at the company's expense in opening new quarries, and have from 10*d.* to 1*s.* a day.' Vol. i. P. 192.

ART. II.—*Allwood's Literary Antiquities of Greece. (Continued from p. 23.)*

WE have already observed that Mr. Allwood derives the names of all the Grecian deities, heroes, and chiefs, from the Ammonian radicals of Mr. Bryant; or elements which, in the opinion of this latter scholar, were in common use among the descendents of Chus the son of Ham; many of which may be supposed to have constituted a part of the primitive vocabulary of man anterior to the partition of lands, or the confusion of tongues at Babel; and the greater part of which referred to the idolatrous rites cultivated among that ingenious but reprobate people, upon the introduction of the worship of the sun, the ark, and the serpent. The adoration of the sun he supposes to have commenced first of all; shortly afterwards that of the ark, as the wonderful vessel in whose capacious womb a remnant of man and beast were preserved on the bosom of the mighty deep, while every animal around them was doomed to utter destruction; or as a type of Noah himself the great progenitor of mankind, and the inspiration he displayed in the construction of such a machine, and the prediction of such a deluge;—to which two sources of idolatry speedily succeeded the worship of the serpent; who, from the coruscation of his scales, and more especially when curled up in the figure of a circle, was an apt emblem of the sun, or of the surrounding care and protection of the supreme Deity himself. Thus far we have no objection: we will admit that the sun might have been termed among the Babylonians *Ur*, *Or*, or *On*; that Noah might have been indiscriminately denominated *Noë*, *Naus*, *Xuth*, or *Thoth*; that the vessel he constructed may have been equally styled *erech*, *mēn*, *bout* or *but*, *bar*, *hip* or *theb*; and that the name for the serpent was *Ob* or *Oub*. We feel no difficulty in deriving the names and worship of many of the Grecian gods and heroes from these and other elements of the same kind; but much is nevertheless highly questionable—scarcely plausible enough to *establish a probability*; and we can by no means allow of the deduction contended for by Mr. Bryant, and now advanced in many respects to a still greater extent by Mr. Allwood, that the names of all the earlier heroes, legislators, and chiefs of Egypt and Greece, are allegorical, and their histories entirely fabulous.

Digitized by Google

And first, as to the questionable source of several of the etymologies here contended for. Erechtheus is said to be nothing more than a compound of *Erech-Thoth*, or *Thoth of the erech* or *ark*; consequently Erechtheus was in reality Noah himself, and the entire story related of him is fabulous. Demeter (Δημητηρ) is Da (the Chaldaïc particle for *the*), and Mēter (Μητηρ) the Greek term for *mother*—of course therefore *the mother*, a title by way of pre-eminence bestowed upon the ark under a female type, as the substance whose womb at one time contained all animated nature. Consequently, again, Demeter, or Venus who was thus denominated, had no real existence, and the fable of her rising from the ocean and being the mother of gods and men, is easily accounted for. Danaüs is the same particle Da and Naus (Ναυς) *a ship*, or Noah under the form of a ship. Danaüs had, therefore, no real existence otherwise than as Noah himself.

That Erechtheus is a Babylonian compound of Erech and Thoth, the Taautes of Sanchoniathon, is highly probable. Erech, however, is not the common term for the *ark* in the Hebrew Pentateuch, but (תבה) *Theba*; whence, probably, the Thebes of Egypt, and several other countries, each of which, thus interpreted, becomes a '*city of the ark*.' Occasionally, however, among the Hebrew commentators, we meet with the term *Erech*; and in 1 Sam. vi. 8. the ark itself is designated by a similar word (ארגז), which, in the Alexandrine MS. is translated (Αργος) *Argos*. But admitting this, we have no reason to conclude that there never was any other Erechtheus than Noah himself; that the first colony of Cuthites who left the land of Goshen under the appellation of Erechtheidæ were merely so denominated from their idolatrous attachment to arkite worship; and that they were not conducted, consistently with the records of Herodotus and Diodorus Siculus, by a leader of this very name; or that there never was a person of the same name who was the first or one of the first kings of Attica, any more than, in the event of a general destruction of written records, future ages might conclude that we never had a prince Henry upon the throne of England—and that the whole history relating to every prince of this name is a mere tradition referable to Noah, because the name of Henry is also deducible from the same source, and among the northern nations of Europe is still pronounced Eric and Ericus.

Dameter may unquestionably be derived as above; and the Chaldaïc (ד) *da* may have been the foundation of the Teutonic particles *die, das, dhe, the*; but the latter part of the word, *-mēter*, is not attempted by Mr. Allwood to be derived from the same fountain: and if we admit this unbounded latitude of deducing terms partly from one language and partly from another, there is scarcely any interpretation that might not be assigned to al-

Digitized by Google

most every word we meet with. We have the same objection to Danaüs, which can only be translated 'the ship' (Da-Νᾶυς), as a compound of two separate tongues. Mr. Allwood would find a difficulty in applying the same interpretation to Dagon; for here the particle appears to be of no use: and if On be the primitive name of the sun or supreme deity, it may mean *God the fish*, or 'God in the semblance of a fish;' the word *fish* in the Hebrew being (דג) *Dag*. We are in general not much attached to the etymologies of Mr. Whiter; yet, with respect to his origin of Dameter, there is an equal degree of ingenuity with that of the author before us, if not of probability. Adam, according to Josephus, is derived from (אדמה) *Adamah*, *red earth*, 'because (says he) the true virgin earth, such as that whence Adam was formed, is of this hue.' Without commenting upon the reason here assigned, Mr. Whiter conjectures that the Hebrew language had originally the word (דם) *Dam* as a radical for *earth*; and hence deduces Dameter from Dam-meter, or *mother-earth*. There can be no doubt, for we have the testimony of the Grecian historians upon the subject, that Venus, Ceres, and Γη, *Terra* or *the Earth*, were all the same divinity under different characters; but it is certain that the title Δημητηρ or *Damater*, *the mother*, κατ' ἐξοχην, or *mother-earth*, was far more frequently applied to this deity under the character of *Terra*, or *the Earth*, than under either of the others. Hence Lucretius De Rer. Nat. V. 819, as well as in a variety of other places:

> 'Quare etiam atque etiam *maternum nomen adepta*
> TERRA *tenet meritò*, quoniam genus ipsa creavit
> Humanum, atque animal propè certo tempore fudit
> Omne, quod in magnis bacchatur montibu' passim,
> Aëriasque simul volucres variantibu' formis.'

And perhaps the Persians may derive their term for *the earth* (*zami*) زمي from the same element. But to return to Mr. Allwood.

'It is an additional argument (says he) in favour of the same supposition, that the Theuth of the Ægyptians, the Taautus of the Phœnicians, and the Teutates of the Celtæ, were deities most assuredly borrowed from Thoth of the Chaldees. All these nations were entirely devoted to the same system of idolatrous worship: but this apostasy from the true God had its first commencement in the plain of Babylonia; and Thoth was a title of the presiding deity of that region. We have seen, however, that this Thoth is likewise described as the inventor of the art of writing.

'From all these circumstances I would conclude, that hieroglyphical inscriptions were first introduced into practice, while as yet the favourite scheme of Ammonian idolatry was in a flourishing state; while the Cuthites and their adherents were assembled in one multi-

Digitized by Google

tudinous mass around the same standard; and before the dispersion compelled them to transport to other climes their customs, inventions, and implements of superstition.

'Among other discoveries attributed to Thoth was the culture of the vine*. And in this respect his history agrees precisely with that of the patriarch Noah. "He," it is said, "began to be a husbandman, and he planted a vineyard †." He was certainly the first who applied himself to agriculture after the flood; and this, in the language of tradition, would be described as an invention; for the æra of the deluge was properly, in a mythological sense, the commencement of time. Hence it appears that Thoth was only a sacred title conferred upon this illustrious person, when he was honoured by his posterity with an idolatrous veneration. And it is thus far, in a very remarkable degree, analagous with Zeuth. The noble and useful discoveries attributed to the deity distinguished by this name are only so many testimonies of gratitude and respect for the benefits accruing from his reputed inspiration.

'That the term Thoth or Theuth has certainly some relation to Noah, may be further collected from its composition with Erech. This latter word signifies an *ark*, or emphatically, in a traditional sense, "*the Ark*;" and the compound Ερεχθευς is literally Erech-Theuth, "*the Ark of Theuth*." But if the term Theuth be of Chaldaïc original, no less so are all its compounds, Prometheus ‡, Menestheus §, Hippothoüs ||, Erechtheus, &c. so far at least as this radical is concerned; and there is much curious and valuable information annexed to the analysis of these names. The last of them, however, is that to which the present discussion will be more particularly confined.' P. 228.

Of the three etymologies the author has here given, the first labours under the very same objection we have urged against his derivation of Danaüs and Dameter—that of deducing the different members of the term from different languages. Piromi is an Egyptian word; but we do not know that Theuth was ever admitted into that language as the name of Noah or Osiris; it is purely Chaldaïc, which the other member of the term is not, either in its article or its substantive, in the sense in which it is here in-

---

'* Πρωτος Θωθ εδαη δρεπανην επι βοτρυν εγειρειν. Epigr. è Lactant. Antholog. l. i.

'† Genesis, ch. ix. ver. 20.

'‡ Prometheus is Piromi-Theuth, *the man Theuth*. ⲣⲱⲙⲓ signifies *man*, and, with the prefix ⲡⲓ, as in ⲡⲓⲣⲱⲙⲓ, *the man*. It is a term applied to the human species, to denote an erect position of body; which, no less than reason, is peculiar to themselves. It is analogous to רום (Rōm) of the Chaldees; and from it the Greeks probably formed 'Ρωμη, signifying *strength*.

'§ Menestheus is literally Menes-Theuth. Menes was the first law-giver among the Egyptians, and the first who improved their mode of living. Consult Diodor. Sicul. vol. i. p. 53.

'|| Hippothoüs is the compound Hipoo-(Thoöt, or) Thoth; and is similar in import to Erech-Theuth. I have treated of the term Hippo in p. 168, &c.

Digitized by Google

troduced. The first month of the Egyptian year was indeed denominated ΘΩΟΤ, as was one of their deities, who, according to Sanchoniathon, was synonymous with the Thouth of the Alexandrines, and the Mercury of the Greeks *, but who can scarcely be forced into service in the present instance. If Prometheus have the meaning assigned to it by Mr. Allwood, and, like Erechtheus, refer to Noah, it must have been in use long prior to the æra in which the Cushites became acquainted with the Egyptian tongue; added to which, we find them uniformly, and consistently with the character of conquerors, disseminating titles of honour from their own language, but not receiving them from that of their vassals. Our author would have been truer to his own radicals, had he derived Prometheus from Pi-Ur-Om-Ait-Eus, contracted into P'-r-om-ait-eus, '*the glorious emanation of Ham the supreme Sun*;' or more simply, and which Mr. Allwood will like quite as well, '*the supreme Pyramid.*' The term *pyramid* indeed, from the existence of this species of edifice in its most stupendous size in Egypt, is derived by Kircher, and more lately by M. Witte †, from this very Egyptian etymon ΠΙΡΩΜΙ (Piromi), as though they were monuments of *great men*—and certainly with as much reason as Prometheus. Our author, however, does not thus derive the former, although he does the latter; deducing it on the contrary from the very radicals from which we have collected the latter ourselves, to wit, Pi-Ur-Am-Ait, contracted into P'-ur-am-ait, '*the glorious emanation of Ham the Sun.*' It is of course supposed to have been a temple or religious edifice erected to solar worship, and is admirably adapted, by its diverging form from an apex to a broad base, to represent a pencil of rays issuing from the sun, or, conversely, an ascending flame of fire. Ammianus Marcellinus, indeed, who derives it from the Greek term πυρ, has expressly thus explained it in a passage we shall take the liberty of copying, as we do not find it cited by Mr. Allwood: '*Pyramids are towers rising from very broad bases into very acute summits, which figure is thus denominated among geometricians, because, like the phænomenon of flame (τα πυρος —pyros), as it is called by ourselves, it presents the shape of a cone* ‡.' Pyramids were unquestionably of Babylonian origin, and were hence adopted in Egypt: we cannot but object therefore to any etymology derived either from Egypt or Greece, for a term which was doubtless in being long before the migration of the descendents of Chus into either of these

* Phil. Bibl. ex Sanchoniath.

† Vertheidigung des Versuchs über den Ursprung der Pyramiden. Leipsig, 1792.

‡ Ammian. Marcell. lib. xxii. cap. 15.

Digitized by Google

regions. We make the same objection to the ordinary derivation of the word Obelisk, and accept, with our author, of Mr. Bryant's etymology, Ob-el-es-cai, '*the temple of the illustrious God the Serpent*'—Ob, Oub, Oph, among the Chaldeans, implying a serpent, whence the Egyptian ϩⲟϥ (*Hoph*), the Persian اوب (*Aub*), and the Greek Οφις (*Ophis*). Hence (Ευρωπη) *Europe*, which is almost literally Ur-Op, '*the glorious Serpent*;' Cecrops, (Cai-Cur-Ops, and contractedly Cai-C'r-Ops,) '*the temple of the glorious Serpent*;' and in the Revelations, Abaddon, (Aub-ad-on) '*the radiant and supreme Serpent*,' or Ophite God:—and hence an infinite variety of other appellations reducible to the same root. The Obelisk was therefore the temple peculiarly appropriated to Ophite or Serpent worship, while the Pyramid appertained to the idolaters of the Sun, or its representative, Fire: the devotees of the ark having in like manner a designation peculiar to themselves, which was that of the Crescent, or form in which, though perhaps untruly, it was universally conceived the ark was constructed. It is probable that the moon was first worshipped on this account in her crescent form, and that divine honours were paid in Egypt to the bull and the heifer, Osiris and Apis or Mneuis, the same *sacred* figure being exhibited by the expanse of their horns; an opinion, however, which we advance in opposition to that of Mr. Bryant, who conjectures these animals to have been emblems of Noah, from its being expressly declared of him, that after the deluge he became a man of the earth, or husbandman. Gen. ix. 20. איש האדמה: by the LXX rendered *ανθρωπος γης* *.

'Erechtheus,' (says our author) 'as the fable relates, and as I have proved, was the father of Cecrops. But they were both symbolical characters: the one was a representative of *the ark of Noah*, and of the first temple dedicated to its worship; the other was of the same nature—a personification of structures, which were of the same kind, and erected in honour of the same Deity. The adoration of the ark is necessarily combined with that of the serpent: for it would be impossible to celebrate the means made use of for the preservation of a remnant of the human race during the flood, without expressing at the same time a grateful acknowledgment of the wisdom which contrived, the power which effected, and the goodness which promoted the execution of, so merciful and so astonishing a plan. But the serpent was the most striking symbol the ancients could devise to represent these attributes of wisdom, power, and goodness; they therefore depicted him in a variety of ways, all tending to express their veneration for him as a sacred type. Among the Oriental na-

* Analysis of Ancient Mythology, II. p. 421. In most of the LXX copies it is *ανθρωπος γεωργος γης.*—*Και ηρξατο Νωε ανθρωπος γεωργος γης· και εφυτευσεν αμπελωνα.*

Digitized by Google

tions, a winged serpent embracing the globe, and a serpent coiled round the mundane egg, were very favourite devices; many places and people were denominated after the names of this creature; and many temples were founded to his honour. To this latter method of displaying their regard for him we must certainly ascribe the existence of Cecrops, which, as I have before observed, is only Ca-Cur-Ops, *the temple of the supreme Serpent*, or *of the Providence which preserves, overrules, and cherishes all things; and which was more than ever discerned in the miraculous exemption of Noah and his family from the fate of the old world.*

'As I have considered Erechtheus in two different points of view, namely, as personating both the ark and the first sacred edifice which was reared for the celebration of its rites—points of view which, though different, are undeniably related very nearly to each other, and embrace the same subject—it is to be expected, that, if there be any justice in the observations I have made upon this part of his history, there must also be two senses, equally related, in which Cecrops may be said to have been his son.

'And it is impossible to consider the nature of his character for one moment, without perceiving that this is the case. If Erechtheus were symbolical of the ark; and if the power, the wisdom, and goodness, which preserved that vessel while the waters of the flood overspread the face of the earth, were typified in the serpent; it will necessarily follow that when the memorial of that deliverance became the occasion of idolatry, and the ark was admitted to divine honours, the serpent also would in some measure partake of the same, and even claim the institution of peculiar rites. Hence it appears that a veneration for the ark would naturally give rise to the construction of ophite temples; and that, in a traditional sense, Cecrops was the son of Erechthéus.

'I have already proved, in various parts of this volume, that a reverence for the renovators of mankind very early degenerated into gross idolatry; that their worship was solar, because they were compared to the sun—and arkite, because they had survived the general deluge; as also, that these latter rites were necessarily united, in some degree, with those of the serpent. The sum of all this information amounts to a belief, that the solar, the arkite, and ophite worship, were only the constituent parts of one grand idolatrous system, which had its commencement at Babel, and extended itself in process of time to every region of the habitable globe. Whatever different appearances this system may have assumed in various parts; however various the forms of those structures which have been consecrated for its support; and into whatever sects it may have been the means of dividing the Gentile world; it is nevertheless certain that in Chaldæa it was in its entire and most compounded state. The temple erected there would serve as a model for those constructed next, in point of time, in other places. It embraced the whole of this theological creed, and had separate apartments for the several rites connected with it. In short, its form has only been altered in different countries and at different times, according to the state of the architectural art, or that parti-

Digitized by Google

cular branch of this idolatry which any people have embraced in preference to the rest. This suggests a reason why Cecrops was fabled to be the son of Erechtheus, considered in the second point of view—that is, as the first edifice raised in honour of the ark: for the dedication of the whole of this temple to the ark was prior to the appropriation of any part of it to the rites of the serpent; and it laid the plan for the foundation of Cecropian structures in after times.' P. 306.

We believe with our author, that all these different systems of idolatry originated from one quarter—that this quarter was Chaldæa, and that they were all in process of time blended and intermixed; and it is a curious circumstance, and tends much to corroborate, if it were necessary, the sacred scriptures, that upon the face of every language, as well as upon the face of every country, are impressed the most indubitable marks of the deluge—of terms derived from the witnesses of this miraculous event, or their immediate progeny; and which occupy, as it were, the very foreground of every dialect, and prove to every people its existence, and the different systems of idolatry by which it was shortly succeeded, and which, as we have already observed, were those of the ark itself, the sun, and the serpent. The Ammonians, or Cuthites, appear to have had a variety of terms by which the ark was designated. Of these, one was Theb, consistently with the Hebrew root of similar elements תבה; hence, obviously, Thebes and the Thebaïs. A second was Ip, or Hip; hence ιιπ, the water-horse, or means of water-carriage in Egypt; Ἵππος (*Hippos*) in Greek, the horses or carriage of Neptune—and hence horses of every description; *schip* and *schiff*, in Low Dutch and German; *ship*, and perhaps *hip*, the vehicle or carriage of the body, in English. Another denomination was Erech, Erecca, Arca; hence Erichthonius, Erechtheus, Ericus, Henrick, Henricus; (Ἄργος) Argos, Arcadia, ark, and arc, a crescent or segment of a circle. Mēn was an additional appellation; and hence Μήν (Mēn) the month or *Moon*, probably at first in her crescent form; Mona or lofty mountains in several regions—הר מונה, Har-munah, '*the mountain of the Moon*,' in the prophet Amos*; Menu, Minos, and an infinitude of similar derivations. The inventor of the Mēn, ark or erech, was Noah, or, as he was denominated by the Chaldæans, Thoth. The appellation Noah furnishes us with Ναῦς (Naus) *a ship*, Navis, Navire, Naviò, and a multitude of other derivations. From Thoth we obtain Erechtheus (Thoth of the erech or ark); Θεος (Theos) God, or Noah deified; Deus, or, as it is in the Spanish, Dios, Dio in Italian, Dieu in French, with a vast variety of others. But the erech or ark of Thoth

* Chap. iv. 3.

Digitized by Google

was also denominated Bou, Bout, or Būd; hence Bousiris, or Busiris, Om*bous*, the city of the glorious Bous, Bout, or ark; which, according to the report of M. Ripaud, published since the return of Bonaparte from Egypt, has still some ruins remaining in this region*;—and hence, conveyed in all probability by another ramification of the same people to this quarter of the world, the Indian deity Būt, Būd, or Boodh, similar to the Bœotus of Greece. The votaries of Boodh are far more numerous than those of Bramah; and it is a singular circumstance, that, while one of the chief kingdoms in which he is supremely worshipped should be derived from this very term, *Boodan* or *Bootan*, another, *Thibet*, should owe its origin to a word of similar import—Theb, as we have already observed, like Bou or Boud, having also among the Ammonians been an appellation of the ark. The Boodh of the Birmans, Booteans, and Thibetians, is by the Siamese pronounced Pood, and by the vulgar Poo; in consequence of which major Symes imagines he may be the same deity as the Foë of the Chinese †, who is said indeed, by Le Compte, to be sometimes called Poë or Po-hi—an idea not different from one which was long ago started, and ably supported by Whiston and many other cosmologists, that Foë or Fo-hi was no other than Noah in a state of deification ‡. The magnificent temple at Apollonopolis is to this hour denominated by the Copts Etfou, which is in reality Ait-Fou, or the temple of the '*supreme Fo*;' and its ruins are still in existence §. Major Symes remarks also, from Mr. Chambers, the striking resemblance, in consequence of the Tamulic termination *en*, between Booden and the Woden of the Goths; observing, that every person who has conversed with the nations of India knows that Boodh is the *dies Mercurii*, the Wednesday or Woden's-day of all Hindu. There can be no doubt that from this source was derived the name for the supreme deity among the Siamese, which is Gautma; and it is by no means difficult therefore to refer to the same radical the Teutonic *Got* and the English *God*. The migrations of the Cuthites appear to have been in every direction. In our review of Mr. Turner's Embassy to the Teshoo Lama we have traced them most unquestionably over great part of Bootan and Thibet; and endeavoured, by the application of Chaldæan radicals, to decipher several of the religious inscriptions on the public walls, the meaning of which he could not learn from the natives themselves ‖. The flood is commemorated in Egypt by

* Rapport de la Comm. des Arts, au Prem. Consul Bonaparte, &c.

† Embassy to the kingdom of Ava.

‡ Theory of the Earth, b. ii.

§ Rapport de la Comm. des Arts, au Premier Consul Bonaparte, &c.

‖ Crit. Rev. Vol. 29, p. 260.

Digitized by Google

sacrifices to the Nile—in India by similar rites to the Ganges and Indus, and in China to the Yellow River *: the pyramidal figure of the temples and towers in the first country is preserved in the pagodas of the other two; and the genius of fire is as devoutly invoked at the vast porcelain manufacture, consisting of three thousand furnaces, at Kin-te-chim on the banks of the Chen-tan-chaung, as it ever was in Egypt or Hindustan. The Egyptian Demeter (Dea Mater) is traced almost by name in the Mah Deeooo, or supreme idol of Benares and Lucknow, whose temples rise in profusion in the vicinity of Rawannarra. The Chinese, like the Chaldæans, admit of three heavens—the planetary, sidereal, and empyrean; and the character by which Tien, or the general term for heaven, is expressed, consisted formerly of three concentric crescent lines alone, and even in its modern shape does not essentially vary from this figure †: while the learned labours of M. de Guignes ought not to be forgotten, who attempted to prove that each of the two hundred and fourteen keys, or elements of the Chinese language, corresponded to Egyptian hieroglyphics, and were identified both by shape and signification.

We have been tempted to throw out these additional hints, because the subject is curious and well worthy of pursuit. With many of them our author is perhaps already acquainted, and for the rest he will not be unthankful. Mr. Allwood however, though from much slighter premises, presses his system still farther, and imagines that both in the language and religious rites of the islands of the Pacific Ocean he traces an evident derivation from the Ammonian stock.

'The places consecrated' (says he) 'to these religious uses were termed *Morai*; and the Deity, who was supposed to be rendered propitious by this service, was called *Eatooa*. But do not these circumstances afford some slight presumption that most, if not the whole of the islands in this immense ocean, were peopled by a race which derived their extraction from Ham? His very name may be said to be retained, in some degree, in the generic appellation of those very places, which were perhaps originally dedicated to his more immediate worship. Morai seems to be only Am-Or-Ai abridged: and if this be the case, it will signify *the place sacred to Ham the Sun*. Eatooa may be Ait, compounded with some other word, or probably with only a dialectic termination; and as such may imply that the God, who is invoked under this title, must either be the Sun, or some other being who is intimately connected with him.

'I have here spoken of what I conceive to have been the original designation of these terms; but it is probable that this has been long

* Staunton's Embassy, vol. iii. 8vo. chap. 3.

† Hager on the Elementary Characters of the Chinese.

Digitized by Google

since lost among the natives. They have retained some resemblance to the sounds, while in the lapse of ages, and under the reign of a despotic barbarism, every vestige of their proper sense has disappeared. The Ammonian colonies, which traveled into various regions of the earth, were exceedingly numerous; they consisted of the offspring of many different families, each of which, as far as we can trace them in their religion, manners, and arts, has been found to have perpetuated, in some way or other, the name of their great ancestor Ham, as well as that of the patriarch from whom they are more immediately descended. Thus the descendents of Nimrod were denominated Nebridæ; those of Metzor or Misor, Mizraïm; and those of Chus, Cuthim, Χρυσεον γενος, &c. If I may be permitted in this place to hazard a conjecture respecting the origin of these islanders, who have, for so many ages, been unknown to the more civilised part of the world, I should say, that it is possible they may have derived their descent from Phut, the son of Ham. There is much less known with certainty concerning the lot which attended the posterity of this patriarch, than that which befel the other branches of the same great family. They have never been particularly distinguished by the voice of history; but seem to have taken themselves away very early from that part of the world which was destined to be the theatre of all the great exploits of the first ages. They seem notwithstanding, prior to this time, to have been infected with the same idolatrous principles which spread themselves so diffusively over the terraqueous globe, and were probably concerned in the dispersion from Babel. Thus much is certain, that there are still the vestiges of some Ammonian rites observable among the people of whom I am speaking; such as their Morai, human sacrifices, and names of deities. It is impossible to say with certainty by what means they came to their present insular situations, so remote from any continent and from each other; yet it is plain that they must have proceeded from a stock common to them with the whole human race; and it is equally obvious, that in the name of their deity Phutaphaihe, whom the inhabitants of the Friendly Islands suppose to preside over the sea and its productions, we may discover the compound Phut-Apha; which implies, that Phut had at some time or other been deified among them under the emblem of fire, and, consistently with the theological principles which prevailed in early times, had been worshipped as the Sun.' P. 399.

We have not time to investigate these etymologies, but cannot avoid adding to our author's observations on the celebrated cemetery of the southern islands, that there seems to be a resemblance too strong for accident, both in sound and appropriation to religious rites, between these Morai and the plantations of Μορεαι (Moreai, *olive-trees*) with which the Academia at Athens was overshadowed, and where religious rites were originally paid to Academus its founder, who is expressly declared by Eupolis to have been a god, and is supposed by Mr. Bryant to have been Cadmus himself. These Μορεαι (Moreai), or groves of olive-trees, were not held sacred in Attica alone,

Digitized by Google

but uniformly over all Egypt; whence probably the religious veneration was imported, and the upper part of which country was denominated Saït, or *the region of olives*, as were its inhabitants Saïtæ. The colony of Athenians who migrated from Egypt were probably conducted by Cadmus; but they certainly preserved the name of Saïtæ long after their arrival in Attica, αποικες Σαϊτων. Diod. Sic. i. 24. Minerva, the immediate goddess of the Athenians, was in like manner entitled Saïtes, and the Μοριαι (Morea) or *olive-tree*, was peculiarly sacred to her. It acquired perhaps its earliest veneration from the olive-branch which was brought by the dove to Noah prior to his relinquishing the ark. The Ammonian term for a dove was Ion (Ιων): and hence another colony of Cuthites entered the region of Greece under the appellation of Ionians; and the dove itself was consecrated to Venus, the goddess of harmony and love.

We meaned to have entered upon our author's conjectures respecting the *real* history of the Titans—the greater part of which is nevertheless, in our opinion, as *fabulous* as that of the Grecian poets and mythologists; and it was also our intention to have animadverted upon his origin of the Greek characters; but the space we have already allotted to this very elaborate work must totally preclude us from all further comment. Our readers will collect our estimation of its merit from the comprehensive manner in which we have reviewed it.

ART. III.—*Elements of the Philosophy of the Mind, and of Moral Philosophy. To which is prefixed a Compendium of Logic. By Thomas Belsham.* 8vo. 9s. *Boards.* Johnson. 1801.

AN elementary work of logic and ontology, equally distant from the unintelligible intricacies of some German authors, and the flimsy superficial detail of many English introductory writers, has been long, in our judgement, a great desideratum in the literature of this country. In the latter subject, controversy had added to its difficulties; and a short perspicuous statement of the opinions of each sect, with its chief arguments and objections, must be highly useful. In all these respects this volume is a valuable assistant. It may be advantageously recurred to by proficients as a monitor to aid their recollection, and may be consulted as a comprehensive body of references to the best authors.

The treatise on logic is short and perspicuous: it is what logic should be—a guide of the human mind in its most complex operations, a detector of errors and absurdities, a sun that dissipates the mist of confusion, and exhibits every object in its most perspicuous view, in its justest light—the 'euphrasy'

Digitized by Google

which clears the visual orb. Mr. Belsham's object cannot be explained in better words than his own.

'The following sheets contain the substance of a course of lectures, which the author delivered to his pupils, upon some of the most interesting subjects which can occupy the attention of the human mind.

'The author's sole end was the investigation and diffusion of useful truth; and his desire was, not to influence his pupils to adopt his own opinions, but to excite in them a spirit of inquiry, and to assist and encourage them to think and to judge for themselves.

'With this view, in all disputable questions he has endeavoured to state the evidence on both sides with fairness and impartiality, and has in no case intentionally omitted or mis-stated any arguments which have been produced in favour of hypotheses which appear to him to be erroneous. Nevertheless, while he was solicitous to do justice to the opinions of others, he did not regard himself as under any obligation to conceal his own.' P. 1.

Having offered these observations on the treatise of logic, we shall pass on to our author's metaphysics.

After some judicious reflexions on the nature and use of the philosophy of the mind, or perhaps its natural history, Mr. Belsham speaks of the rules of philosophising, and the utility of hypotheses, as suggesting an inquiry how far they quadrate with facts. These are the subjects of the introduction; and the author begins with a general account of the faculties of the mind. He seems willing to exclude the innate principles or moral instincts, and, with Hartley, to consider perception as a capacity for pleasure and pain, and the power of associating ideas to be sufficient for explaining the whole scope of mental phænomena. On this point, however, we must hesitate; though, from what we shall observe in other parts of this article, we risk by such skepticism the character of consisteney. In reality, it seems to involve a very intricate and extensive question, viz. the existence of instincts which appear in brutes, and occasionally, we think, in the human species; and it remains to be considered whether these should not be added to the principles laid down by Hartley, as necessary to explain all the facts of the human intellect. We mean however, as we have said, to hesitate only; for these facts have not been accurately detailed; and some circumstances of the animal œconomy, which may contribute to illustrate the question, have not been sufficiently investigated.

Mr. Belsham treats of the sources of all intellectual phænomena which have been just mentioned, according to Dr. Hartley's system. The doctrine of association is very clearly and correctly explained; but, in conjunction with his 'Philosopher and Guide,' when he speaks of the effects of the vibrations excited, he falls into various errors, from an imperfect acquaint-

Digitized by Google

ance with physiology and pathology. Dr. Hartley was himself an able physician; but, immersed in the mechanical doctrines of his day, which perhaps originally recommended the tenet of vibrations, his particular explanations are, through the whole work, erroneous; and it is singular as well as unfortunate that no medical commentator of extensive information and ingenuity has started up to offer liberal criticisms on this subject. Even in the page (43) which now lies open before us, Mr. Belsham, from Dr. Hartley's works, confounds stupor and sleep. If, as is highly probable, the nervous influence should eventually be found to be the Galvanic or electrical, we shall be able to approach the temple more nearly: we can never, in our imperfect mortal state, expect to penetrate to the shrine. The explanations, however, of the effects of different powers on the nervous influence, unless we mistake largely, will be rather resolvable into chemical than mechanical phænomena. The doctrine of vibrations, in its principle, we consider as impregnable; but the vibrations excited must be those of a fluid as peculiar to the nerve as the magnetic fluid is to the iron, and as coërcible by the coats of the nervous fibril as the electric fluid is by glass. We speak analogically only; though farther discoveries may give the suggestions a more unquestionable shape and a more literal meaning.

The fourth chapter is on sensation; and the organs of sense, with their respective functions, are well described, with the exception of a few of the errors of Dr. Hartley, or such as arise from the author's not writing in his own profession. He evidently has not a musical ear; for of all the sources of pleasure derived from music, he overlooks that which must have been immediately obvious to a person possessed of the nice discriminative powers which it affords.

The fifth chapter is an excellent one, on the intellect. The first section is on truth and falsehood, knowledge and opinion, assent and dissent, nature and kinds of evidence; the second, on words and propositions; the third, on the origin of assent to various classes of propositions; the fourth, on innate ideas and principles, the evidence of the senses, and the existence of the immaterial world. On the latter subject we may again enlarge; but we cannot avoid observing in this place, that, though we believe the existence of an external world, we should find a great difficulty in proving it, or convincing a skeptic of its reality. All our ideas, we believe, are exclusively derived from sense; but there is a class referable to indistinct internal sensations, which Mr. Belsham has not noticed. These are called by Dr. Cullen ideas of consciousness. Hunger is one of them, and there are numerous others of a similar kind.

The phænomena of memory are detailed with great precision and propriety.

Digitized by Google

'What that affection of the brain is, which by the constitution of human nature causes memory, we cannot absolutely ascertain. The hypothesis of vibrations, which has been already explained, is the most probable. It is trifling to object, that if the existence of impressions upon the brain could be proved, memory would remain as unaccountable as before: all which this hypothesis pretends to, is to advance a step in tracing the process of the connexion between external objects and mental feelings. It is curious to observe that Dr. Reid, after starting several objections against the commonly-received hypotheses, is obliged to admit (p. 341) that "many well-known facts lead us to conclude that a certain constitution or state of the brain is necessary to memory."—Reid on the Intellectual Powers, p. 388—342.' P. 136.

We did not design to enlarge on any metaphysical disquisition suggested in this volume, as it would be apparently misplaced in an account of a work purely elementary: yet the application of the doctrine of vibrations to memory, and the phænomena of dreaming, has not hitherto claimed sufficient attention. We have often promised to engage in the inquiry, but have been prevented, and can now only offer the outline.

There is no fact better established in the animal œconomy than that the repetition of action gives greater facility. This is sufficiently obvious in the muscular system; but, though we deny irritability to nervous fibres, the same law must be admitted equally in the nervous system. The mathematician follows with ease trains of abstract reasoning which would fatigue common minds; and the physician examines and combines various discordant symptoms with a facility which has suggested the idea of a sixth sense:—vibrations therefore of a given nature are again more easily excited by the same causes in a less degree, or by inferior powers in an equal degree. When, consequently, ideas are once impressed on the mind, the recollection is more easy. But what are those inferior powers which again excite the vibrations, and give the impression of recollected images? Association is certainly a very powerful one; but there are circumstances in which we cannot perceive its influence, and in dreams it can have no place; yet dreams are a combination of distorted recollections. To those who admit of an immaterial principle seated in the brain, and wandering over the tablet of former impressions, the explanation is not difficult; but, for ourselves, we cannot admit this principle, because we can never trace its actions isolated from the body. In the human frame, life is inseparable from the solid mass, and seems to consist only in an organisation not essentially impaired. This at least is all we can perceive; and though we by no means deny the existence of an immaterial principle *superadded*, it can make no part of our reasoning respecting phænomena, where its separate

Digitized by Google

influence is undiscoverable, or where the connexion or the medium of mutual influence is unknown.

The only agent which we can perceive acting in the brain, to produce memory or recollection, independently of association, is the action of the arterial system. The arteries, we know, are capable of exciting vibrations, though the means by which they produce this effect are unknown. Thus the ideas, the recollections, the combinations of a phrenetic person, are remarkably acute and rapid. The Paris mendicant, recorded in this volume, could be rendered stupid by checking the circulation. When the powers of mind are peculiarly active, we are sensible of increased circulation in the head, or, where not equably increased in all the vessels, of confusion. Where the circulation is rapid and irregular, as after excess, the dreams are confused, and the recollection of what has passed is imperfect. To say that the circulation is not equable in any one organ may appear gratuitous; but it may be easily explained. Thus in fever, the circulation in all the extreme vessels, either cuticular or secretory, is impeded. We must suppose those of the head to be similarly affected. In old people, previous to apoplexy, the mind is confused; and in such cases we know the blood is confined to the sinuses. In those who have had injuries in the brain, the former train of images is followed with difficulty: we knew a man who, after a concussion of the brain, could not for many months count more than three, and after many years could not numerate twenty. The circulation therefore, increased equably in all the vessels of the brain, if not too rapid, renders the intellectual functions more acute; if too rapid, irregularly so; and if increased partially and irregularly, it renders these functions confused. If it be once then admitted that the circulation in the arteries can excite vibrations, we want no more to give a clue, at least to the cause of memory and dreams.

To advance one step farther on this subject, we must attend to what passes in the mind when memory is exerted. If the arterial circulation can excite vibrations, the consequence must be that images are constantly raised. This we believe to be true; and we are only insensible of them in general because they are not peculiarly interesting. This must not be left on supposition only. Let a person be seised in the most listless moment, and asked, without hurry, what he is thinking of? He will answer nothing, but will soon recollect some image which had been before him. Again: we say a thought strikes us; that is, among the crowd of images constantly presented, one is interesting enough to arrest the attention. In this crowd some of the former vibrations are renewed; we then suddenly recollect, or the image is recalled by an associated idea. Once

Digitized by Google

more: we attempt to recollect, and in that case investigate what passes in the mind; when the subject, or an associated one, fixes the attention; or, by leading the attention to kindred topics, we are soon brought to what we wish to recover. In proof of this, who are those who have bad memories? Men whose dull nerves are susceptible only of imperfect vibrations, or whose inattention never admits of active impressions.

Such is the outline of a doctrine which may be greatly expanded with numerous illustrations, but which cannot be rendered more clear. It may at some future period make a part of a liberal commentary on Dr. Hartley's work, long since in embryo, and which, but for the loss of a valuable associate, might have been before this time completed. The theory of dreaming, offered in different numbers of our journal, is a part of the same train.—But to return to our author, from whom we hope we have not largely wandered.

The second section of this chapter is on succession and duration, in which the usual doctrines are well detailed; but we meet with nothing peculiarly interesting. We feel a little repugnance to some of the common doctrines, but are unable to bring them into a 'tangible form' in a short compass.

Mr. Belsham seems to have given a correct and summary view of the controversy respecting the existence of space. We suspect that he is willing to argue it away. In this however we cannot agree with him, though we fear the controversy would be verbal only. The argument which we consider to be decisive is, that if, for instance, the Deity would create fifty millions of solar systems more, there must be space for them; since, if there were not, something must prevent; therefore something must be given to limit space—*q. e. d.*

The question of identity is discussed with peculiar accuracy and conciseness. Personal identity must exist, together with a consciousness of this identity, either permanent or reproduced. This must, according to Dr. Watts's system, depend on permanent stamina, a doctrine to which our author is apparently partial. We will not enter into another disquisition, but could render this opinion highly probable.

On the question, whether consciousness be ever interrupted, Mr. Belsham speaks his own opinion more plainly than in other places. He allows that the possibility of uninterrupted consciousness must be allowed, but that this will not prove it to be either true or probable. Our opinion must be clear, from what has preceded, that consciousness must exist, in different degrees, while the circulation is continued with any activity in the brain, whether we retain the recollection of it or not.

The chapter on the imagination is also excellent. The first section is on its phænomena, dreams, and reveries—a subject to which we need not return. The second section is on 'imper-

Digitized by Google

fections in the rational faculties;' to which our former ideas will equally apply. The third is on the phænomena of brutes analogous to the human faculties, and the percipiency of vegetables.

Brutes have life, and many of the intellectual faculties; but whether their life and intellect are connected with an immaterial or an immortal principle, is not necessary for us to decide in this place, as it was not necessary to determine the former question with respect to man. It is obvious that they are not accountable creatures in a future state, because they are apparently incapable of forming abstract ideas. The percipiency of vegetables is an idle fancy. Dr. Darwin adopted it as susceptible of poetical ornament, and then was led to defend it as a philosophical truth;—but 'must we swear to the truth of a song?'

The eighth chapter is on affections, natural and acquired, and treats of instinct, wit, habit, the origin and classification of affections. We cannot enlarge on any of these; yet on the subject of instinct we could wish, did our limits allow, to offer a few remarks. We shall select a part of our author's observations, not only for their merit, but as a specimen of his general manner.

'The existence of this principle in brutes, and that in a very high degree, is allowed almost universally; and instinct is observed to lead them to those actions which are most necessary to their own preservation, and to the continuance of the species.

'Dr. Darwin has endeavoured to prove that what is called instinct in brutes is the effect of imitation, instruction, and experience. His facts are curious, and his reasonings are ingenious and plausible. He has at least proved that instinct is not always uniform, and that it is modified by circumstances. He has also shown great sagacity in analysing the natural symbols of the affections—fear, grief, pleasure, and the like; and without natural signs, as he observes after Dr. Reid, no artificial ones could be invented or understood.

'All actions to which animals are impelled by instinct are performed with so much readiness and assiduity, that it seems reasonable to believe they are attended with pleasure, though some of them are effected with great labour. Such is the instinct by which a bird builds its nest, and that by which the bee constructs the honeycomb.

'Instinct, as far as it goes, excels reason; but it is limited to few objects, and is incapable of much variety, or of considerable improvement. Hence it is that brutes do not profit, like rational beings, by the wisdom and experience of former generations.

'To account for the instincts of brutes, Dr. Hartley conjectures that, from their bodily make, certain vibrations spring up in them at certain seasons of the year, and at certain ages, mixing themselves with their acquired ideas, so as may best direct them to provide for and to preserve themselves and their young. This he calls a kind of

Digitized by Google

natural inspiration, as proceeding from the same stated laws of matter and motion as the other phænomena of nature.

'This is a gratuitous and unsatisfactory hypothesis; and Dr. Hartley acknowledges the extreme difficulty of the subject. Could Dr. Darwin's theory be established, it would harmonise much more satisfactorily with that of the association of ideas, and with the hypothesis of vibrations.

'In addition to the facts mentioned by Dr. Darwin in the section above referred to, remarkable instances of the wonderful power of instinct may be seen in the references below; viz. in the bee *, the ant †, the wasp ‡, the beaver §, and the termites ‖.

'The natural appetites of the human species are generally regarded as instinctive, but perhaps improperly. The sensation of hunger is produced by a certain state of the stomach, and is no more innate than the sensation of colour or sound. The suction of an infant, when applied to the breast, is not the result of a previous knowledge of the action to be performed, which would imply an innate idea, but is excited automatically by the impressions made upon the nervous and muscular system, which is then extremely irritable. And by degrees mastication and deglutition, which were originally automatic, become voluntary acts. The origin of the other desires, and actions, which are commonly thought instinctive, admits of a similar explanation.

'The uniformity and universality of these feelings is no proof that they are instinctive: similarity of natural constitution and of external circumstances sufficiently accounts for these facts.

'The error of those philosophers who trace all the affections of human nature, and the phænomena of mind, to instinctive principles, has been already stated and obviated.' P. 190.

This is a faithful detail of what has been done; but much more is required. Our own sentiments, as we have said, are not matured; and we would decline entering into the discussion, at least till many of the facts are better ascertained.

The ninth chapter is on the will; and the doctrines of liberty and necessity are admirably discussed. Mr. Belsham, with the ablest metaphysicians, ranges on the side of the necessitarians.

The tenth chapter is on power, the eleventh on immateriality and materialism, and the twelfth on the evidence of a future life. These disquisitions merit our highest commendations. Our own opinions are sufficiently obvious, and in general we agree with Mr. Belsham.

The elements of moral philosophy admit not of much discussion; they are, like the rest of the work, peculiarly clear and

'* Nature Displayed, vol. i. p. 168—202.

'† Guardian, vol. ii. Nos. 156, 157.

'‡ Nature Displayed, part i. p. 126—148.

'§ ——————, part ii. p. 106—114.

'‖ Philosophical Transactions, vol. 71. p. 139—193.'

Digitized by Google

comprehensive. We need only, as a specimen of our author's opinions, transcribe his definition of the moral sense.

'The moral sense is that faculty, affection, or state of mind, which excites an instantaneous, disinterested approbation and love of what is considered as virtue, and disapprobation and abhorrence of what is considered as vice, when perceived in ourselves or others.' P. 384.

We need not add any general character of the work, or repeat our approbation of it. For ourselves, some apology is requisite—particularly for enlarging so far on an elementary book, and for the manner in which we have considered it. Though elementary, however, it contains much more than many professed treatises, and engages so deeply on different subjects, that it unavoidably drew us into some discussions which in prudence we might have avoided. We have indeed treated the subject rather as physiologists than metaphysicians; but, while metaphysics contain only the natural history of the human mind, and the mind and body are so inseparably united that we can merely trace the functions of the former through the medium of the latter, the mind can only be considered as a part of the corporeal system; and we think the failure of metaphysicians has chiefly arisen from their defective knowledge of physiology and pathology. We earnestly wish that the system of Dr. Hartley were resumed by some physician of ability; for we are convinced that it may be improved and illustrated by numerous facts, and by facts so important as to entitle it to more praise than it has even hitherto received from the first metaphysicians who have succeeded him.

ART. IV.—*De l'Influence attribuée aux Philosophes, aux Francs-Maçons, et aux Illuminés, sur la Révolution de France. Par J. J. Mounier.*

On the Influence attributed to Philosophers, Free-Masons, and to the Illuminati, on the Revolution of France. By J. J. Mounier.—Translated from the Manuscript, and corrected under the Inspection of the Author, by J. Walker, A.M. 8vo. 5s. 6d. sewed. Wallis. 1801.

THE reveries of a Robison and the impostures of a Barruel receive their death-blow in this publication. Flattering the prejudices of the thoughtless and the unprincipled, these two writers availed themselves of the moment when the horrors of the French revolution excited the utmost indignation against any one who could be supposed, either by his counsels or his actions, to have assisted in promoting its cause; and it was natural for those who were in possession of power or privileges to receive with complacency every such attempt to palliate the

Digitized by Google

faults of different governments, and to throw the whole blame of the revolution on philosophers and men of letters. Absurd as is the idea, that literary and scientific men, continually disputing with each other on the subject of their respective opinions, should conspire together to overthrow all social order, all good government, and every trace of religion,—or should have the power of committing such mischief if they could thus conspire,—no sooner was it advanced than it became accredited by all who were either unable or unwilling to refer the causes of the French revolution to their genuine source: and the idle dreams and self-conceits of visionaries and fanatics, with whom Germany has at all times abounded, were adduced as convincing proofs that the French government was overthrown by the efforts of secret societies. Philosophy, free-masonry, and illuminism, were compelled to be the genuine parents of Jacobinism; and it was not considered, that, among the members of the famous Jacobin club, scarcely one was an illuminate, nor a tenth part free-masons, and few possessed, or even affected, the least pretensions to philosophy. Illuminism was never known in France; and it was extinguished in Germany before the French revolution; and even in this latter country its influence was not a thousandth part so extensive as that of Mr. Wesley's methodist societies in England. Free-masonry and philosophy have been cultivated in France, not by the revolutionists, but by those who, in consequence of the revolution, have been compelled to emigrate to other countries.

Few persons are better qualified than the author of this work to appreciate the real causes which effected the overthrow of the French monarchy, nobility, and clergy. He was a principal character in the first national convention; and if he took an active part with those who wished to see France in possession of a free constitution, he was not the less a determined enemy to all who aimed at the destruction of her monarchy and the introduction of anarchical principles. When the irresolution of the cabinet had rendered every attempt to support the crown inefficient, and the power of the anarchists began to be paramount, the author retired to his own province, to prevent, as much as in him lay, the devastation of its fields, and the total destruction of the habitations of ease, luxury, and industry: and when faction had at length so reared its monster head, that a man of his independent and upright principles became necessarily an object of suspicion and a marked victim to lawless power, he retired from a nation unable to receive his services, or to afford him the security to which he was entitled. From such a person, acquainted with the secret springs which influenced the conduct of the members of the first convention, who has beheld the operation of those measures which, during the American war, were sapping the foundation of the government of his own country; who was well versed in the

writings of the men who gave the tone to a great part of the higher classes in France; from one who was a principal agent in the earlier scenes of its revolution, and a material sufferer by its progress; from a man of judgement, matured by experience and by adversity—a candid statement of facts, combined with their causes, will be perused by impartial persons with great satisfaction, and deserves to be held up in opposition to works of a different tendency—to the phantoms of a deranged mind, and of that party-spirit which still advocates the cause of popery.

Philosophy and philosopher are now words used at random; not to express what the terms themselves imply—a love of wisdom,—but an attachment to the theories, the dreams of a capricious imagination, ignorant of the real nature of man, and knowing no rules but those of lawless and brutal force. Every sincere friend of liberty, whom our forefathers would have esteemed for philosophical knowledge,—if in his writings any thing be even accidentally advanced against the intrigues of a court or the corruptions of a minister, if any thing appear in favour of the imprescriptible claims of the subject,—is immediately stigmatised under these terms, as a demagogue and an abettor of faction and revolution. Nothing can equal the absurdity of such a conduct; for on the same principle Christianity itself might be treated as a foe to the human race, because there have been wicked popes and Jesuitical societies maintaining anti-social principles. Our author makes a just distinction between true and false philosophers—between those who have imbibed some portion of the spirit of a Bacon, a Locke, and a Montesquieu, and those who are led away by the caprices of a Rousseau and the wit of a Voltaire. To the former we are in the highest degree indebted; and if in the latter there be a great mixture of indecency and irreligion, our acrimony against them should in some degree be mitigated by a recollection of their efforts in favour of the victims of superstition and bigotry, and their endeavours to introduce a proper detestation of religious intolerance and civil despotism. We are to balance then the good deduced from the true, with the evil derived from the false, philosopher; and the excess, were it in favour of the latter, would be found far too small for the production of so great an event as the French revolution. The wealth of the lower classes, and their increase of knowledge, the poverty and immorality of the higher, the insufficiency of the crown to support them, the contests between the crown and the courts of law, and, especially, the derangements in the finances—all tended to introduce, in the reign of a weak prince, that change in the system which was soon followed by the most atrocious disorders. Of these disorders the philosophers indeed, equally with the royalists, became the victims; among whom many were advocates for monarchy: but not a single man was to be found, unless we dignify

Digitized by Google

with such a name the Robespierres and the Marats, who countenanced the horrors of anarchy. M. Mounier had an opportunity of noticing the real effects of the political measures that occurred, the decrease of the power of the crown, and the advance of that of the people—effects that have been experienced in various countries, in which the passions have in general had full exercise, rather than the calm dictates of philosophy. These measures are explained with great perspicuity; and his remarks on the characters and influence of Mirabeau, Barnave, Rabaud, Necker, and others, throw great light upon the first movements of the revolution.

The celebrated club of the Jacobins, so called from a convent of Jacobins, or an order whose patron was St. James, could not in such a work pass unnoticed; and the following account of them is entitled to our attention.

'This name was conferred upon them by derision; they gloried in it; and this denomination was extended to all the societies of the same kind established in the provinces. They were composed of enthusiasts, a great number of ignorant persons easily misled, and of many covetous and cruel men, who disguised their ambition under the appearance of an ardent zeal for the general happiness. The members of those societies corrupted and bribed the populace of the cities, whom it was so easy to render ferocious. Become the chiefs of a numerous troop of brigands, they struck all the citizens with terror, and subjugated the legislative assemblies. They caused those to be put to death without pity who opposed their opinions, those whose riches they wished to seize, those who disapproved of their fury—those even who refused to approve of them, their own associates, in order to punish them for having stopped in the career of their crimes from lassitude or remorse, or in order to diminish the number of their rivals. In the eyes of those tyrants, all the qualities which command respect, all the advantages which procure influence, became motives of proscription, merely because the persons who possessed them did not belong to their sect, and might one day obtain the affections of the people.

'There is no system purely political, and considered independently of the actions of those who adopt them, which can entitle them to a name so justly odious. A man is not criminal if, remaining obedient to the laws, he delivers his opinion in a public discussion, without obliging others to conform to it. It is not because the Jacobins professed maxims contrary to good order that they ought to excite indignation. If they had taught false doctrines without propagating them, like Mahomet, by the fear of death, it would have been easy to refute them, and to prevent their consequences; so much the more easy, as, even in the time of their greatest power, they had never seduced but a small part of the French nation. It is the same with respect to the publication of principles favourable to an absolute democracy, as with respect to every other false doctrine. Truth would triumph from the very first moment, if respect for jus-

Digitized by Google

tice were preserved in discussion, if constraint were never to be substituted for persuasion.

'An unlimited democracy is, it is true, the most pernicious of the three simple forms of government, and the most difficult to maintain: but the despotism of one, and an absolute aristocracy, can only be preferred to it as the lesser evil. The adoption of a system exclusively in favour of one of these three forms is not a crime; it is an error which all the friends of liberty will refute, in acknowledging nevertheless that the love of an unlimited democracy might be the delirium of a good man without experience; whereas that of the despotism of one, or an absolute aristocracy, often indicates selfishness and cruelty. The democratic maxims of the Jacobins have occasioned so many misfortunes, only because criminal means have been employed in order to gain them an ascendency. They were, for most of the Jacobins, only a pretext which served to mask their ambition. What proves it is, that, after having acknowledged the plurality of voices as the only legitimate sign of the will of the sovereign, they have often taken the liberty of excluding from the assemblies the majority of the citizens, of annulling the choice of the people, and of despising the known wishes of the greatest part of the nation.

'It is therefore having a false idea of Jacobinism, to confound it with the love of democracy. A man cannot be a Jacobin, unless with anarchical systems he unites a mind sufficiently atrocious to wish for the ruin or death of those who have not the same opinions. Nothing, however, is more common than to hear this infamous title given even to those who profess respect for all established governments, but who suppose in all the same duties, at the same time that they acknowledge in every people those rights which the friends of humanity ought always to claim from sovereigns, without disturbing the order and tranquillity of the state.

'Those men who, for the interest of an absolute monarchy, or of some privileged families, or even for the interest of the best possible form of government, and the most perfect religious institutions, should violate all the principles of justice, and be inaccessible to every sentiment of pity, would completely resemble the Jacobins, precisely in that which ought to excite the indignation of good men; that is, in their criminal means, and in their indifference for the misfortunes of others. Thus, when we would transfer this name to others than those who have gloried in it, we might say that there are monarchical, aristocratical, and superstitious Jacobins, as well as democratical.' P. 120.

A Jacobin club could evidently not have been formed even by modern philosophers: their influence has been confined within much narrower limits. 'They have contributed,' our author justly observes, 'to spread among all classes the hatred of arbitrary power; but philosophy has no connexion whatever with the circumstances which produced the revolution.'

'The crimes and misfortunes which have accompanied it have been chiefly the effects of the composition of the orders, of the impru-

Digitized by Google

dences of the court, of the ignorance of political principles, and of the corruption of manners. I acknowledge that these causes have given greater importance to the false theories of several celebrated authors; but, in assigning a part to the errors of modern philosophy in the calamities of which we are witnesses, it is also just to assign a very great part to the errors of those who are not philosophers—to the resistance of those who endeavour to maintain the ancient abuses, and to revive the prejudices destroyed by the knowledge of the age.

'It is likewise just to acknowledge that the labours of the philosophers have had great influence on the changes which justice authorised, which reason distinguishes in the midst of so many errors and crimes, and which can only be condemned by fanaticism or ignorance.' P. 124.

The notion that free-masonry and a revolutionary spirit are closely united is so fraught with absurdity, that, in a country where characters of the first respectability in every class of life are known to be free-masons, any attempt to vindicate such an order might seem superfluous. But free-masonry in England differs much from that on the continent; and some foreign societies have ceremonies too ridiculous to pass current with the gravity of this country. Still such incongruities had nothing to do with the revolution; and the presidency of the duke of Orléans did not arise from any political views, but from the splendor of his birth, which gave dignity to the society at large. We may judge of professor Robison's accuracy, if other proofs did not abound of the little attention he has paid to that quality so essential to good writing, by the denial which our author makes point blank to the imputation cast on him by the professor, of having been initiated into the mysteries of this society.

'If what I have said on the free-masons should ever reach him, he will be surprised at the profane tone of my discourse, in which I should not have indulged myself had I been of the number of the adepts. I declare solemnly that I have never been either free-mason or Martinist. It is enough for me to obey the laws, and to acknowledge the superiors which they give me. I have by no means any intention of increasing the number of those to whose will I should be bound to conform. I am fond of enjoying all the independence which the public order can guarantee to individuals, and I shall not expose it to the fancies of a grand-master, of a superintending brother, or of a terrible brother. I detest oaths which are not indispensable, and every thing which restrains without necessity the liberty of speaking as I think.' P. 168.

Instead of introducing free-masonry as a matter of necessity into the political system, the agents in common life are sufficient for every purpose; for—

'—if there should not exist a single free-mason in the world, if

those who govern ruin their finances, render their armies discontented, allow disorder to be introduced into every part of the administration, and then assemble a great number of deputies of the people in order to demand succours of them, revolutions will be inevitable.' P. 171.

Bavaria gave birth to a society of Illuminati, as they pretended to call themselves. It was founded by a professor of a university; and several reigning princes of Germany became members of the institution. The plan was replete with folly; but the aim was rather to direct princes by means of wise counsels, than to introduce a mob to destroy their power. Before the French revolution took place, the papers of the society were seised, and the whole plan was destroyed; and, what is more remarkable, it does not appear by the arrested papers that any ramifications of the society had extended to France. Yet even this visionary association of Germans is supposed also to have had an influence over the French. To those who have read M. Barruel and professor Robison, the full and consistent account given of the weakness of this society, in its whole progress from birth to death, is calculated to afford complete satisfaction on this subject; and we may well dismiss the reveries of German fanatics for the sound advice with which this experienced writer concludes his work.

'Ye who sincerely desire the tranquillity of states, offer therefore to the chiefs of nations more salutary counsels. Tell them that all governments have the same obligations; that their subjects have the same rights to personal liberty; that there are countries in which this liberty is happily guaranteed by political liberty, but that this advantage is not to be acquired at will; that the efforts in order to attain it cause great misfortunes, and often produce tyranny; that it is in the power of those who govern, even in the least limited monarchies, to render this guarantee unnecessary, and to procure for their subjects all the happiness which they could enjoy in the best regulated republic—by never permitting any act of authority which is not directed by anterior laws—by gradually destroying all privileges which are not attached to public functions—by removing the distinctions which divide men into inimical classes—by opening to merit a free access to all employments, to all honours—by protecting talents when directed by virtue—by respecting public opinion—by reconciling the liberty of the press with decency, the general tranquillity, and the honour of private persons—by causing the people to be instructed in their duty—by the principles of an enlightened religion—by those of a pure morality (for if the people are kept in ignorance and superstition, they are given up without defence to the sophisms of those who wish to corrupt them). It is on these conditions that the magistrates are at liberty, or rather that they are bound by justice, to be inflexibly severe in the execution of the laws which punish conspirators.

'Tell the people that every established government is legitimate,

Digitized by Google

even that which owes its origin to conquest, when it has become necessary for the public tranquillity and order, when it is the protector of property, the defender of personal liberty. Tell them that one of the most essential rights of citizens is that of denouncing the abuses of administration, and the vices of the laws, without ceasing to obey them, without deviating from the respect which is due to the magistrates; that it is even a duty to tell the truth at the risk of exposing one's self to unjust resentments; that sooner or later this truth will become useful, but that it would be criminal to wish to hasten its triumph by violence; that the excess of tyranny alone can justify an insurrection; and that the oppression must be very cruel indeed where the evils it may produce can be equal to those which are the inevitable consequences of a tumultuous revolution in political institutions.' P. 231.

The original is written with great spirit; the version is in general faithful. Prefixed to the latter is a preface by the translator, with a proper panegyric on the author; and in translating it he has done an essential service to the British public.

ART. V.—*A familiar Treatise on the Physical Education of Children, during the early Period of their Lives: being a Compendium addressed to all Mothers who are seriously concerned for the Welfare of their Offspring. Translated from the German of Christian Augustus Struve, M.D. &c. To which are prefixed Three introductory Lectures on the same Subject, by A. F. M. Willich, M.D. &c.* 8vo. 8s. *Boards.* Murray *and* Highley. 1801.

ON first perusing this work, and the three valuable introductory lectures by Dr. Willich, we intended to have engaged at considerable length in this inquiry: we find, however, much to commend, many things to disapprove; and the latter are so minutely blended with the former, that to point out each would be a task almost endless. We shall therefore commence with noticing the translator's lectures, giving a concise view of what we conceive to be the securest path in this devious and doubtful progress, and, in the most striking parts, noticing Dr. Willich's opinions, whether they agree with or differ from our own.

Perhaps the historical sketch of the customs and manners of different nations, which constitutes a great portion of the first lecture, might have been omitted: we are seldom acquainted with their source, nor are we always certain of their effects. The present race is changed—we will not say that it has degenerated; for though we have lost the robust hardy constitutions of our ancestors, we have not their inflammatory habits, their

Digitized by Google

scorbutic nor their putrid diseases. On the whole, we think mankind have gained in health and comfort by the change. What is due to the later period of marriage we dare not say, because modes of life, and numerous other circumstances, must be taken into the account; and, if the two extremes of tender youth and imbecile old age be avoided, we see no great difference that can result from earlier or later matrimonial connexions. In the following recapitulation of what we have obtained and lost by modern refinements, we cannot wholly agree with our author. In the higher circles, there is not the imbecillity or irresolution that he suspects to exist; and we will tell him, that if it ever gain ground, it will be from his own system of a private education. The boy who has fought his way through Eton or Harrow will never be timid or irresolute in any situation. There never were more finely-drawn portraits than those of Geminus and Gemellus in the Observer, nor more faithful likenesses. But we forget the promised 'recapitulation.'

'A few words, then, will be sufficient to recapitulate what we have actually gained, or lost, by our modern refinements in general. The lower orders of the people, especially in large towns, appear to have acquired immoral habits and relaxed principles, instead of their ancient simplicity of manners and unshaken integrity;—the middle ranks of society are perhaps the greatest gainers, as they are better informed, and have attained more skill in such pursuits as depend upon the combined agency of mental and physical talent;—lastly, the higher ranks have become unquestionably more enlightened with respect to their *true* interest; but I cannot repress the observation, that they have also become subject to hereditary diseases unknown to their ancestors, and that the acquisition of mental powers and abilities appears to be in no just proportion to the obvious decrease of physical energy. In short, our attainments in ethics are more extensive, perhaps more systematic; but I hope to be forgiven, when I assert that the present age appears to labour under a certain mental and corporeal imbecillity, scarcely definable by words, but which is evident in that fickle conduct, in that peculiar want of resolution and mental vigour, which marks the actions of the most cultivated minds, and of which we rarely find instances among our less enlightened, but more consistent and determined forefathers.' P. 49.

The second lecture relates to the medical treatment of children. On this subject we have bestowed great attention; for we also are fathers. It is a fact that children born of healthy parents possess in general such a stock of corporeal vigor, that, instead of anxiety to preserve their health, it would not be easy essentially to impair it. If an adult require free air and exercise, the child must want the same: if the food must be adapted to the organs of the father, so must it be to those of the child: if rest to the former must come unsolicited, in conse-

Digitized by Google

quence of fatigue, to be wholesome and refreshing, so must it to the latter; he is the man in miniature, and requires only attention to greater delicacy and irritability; crying is his language, and its dialect should be attentively studied. A child never cries wantonly; he feels uneasiness or pain; he wants what he cannot call for; he feels desires which he cannot gratify. What then should be the conduct of the parent or nurse? He should first examine whether the child be in pain or unwell; next, whether cold, hungry, or thirsty. Each is soon known; for if he be not ill, he cannot counterfeit; if he cannot explain his feelings, he cannot mislead. There are few instances where an able practitioner will mistake a child's disease, though the latter cannot speak his symptoms.

Again: if he be not ill, he may be cold, hungry, or thirsty. The nurse gives food and drink, and is blamed for cramming him. By what standard is the measure of his wants ascertained? Does not each constitution require different proportions? and the error is, after an examination of the effects of either, to *persist* in the practice. If the child be quieted by food and drink, sleeps comfortably, without heat, oppression, or heavy breathing, and has healthy suitable evacuations, he certainly wanted food or drink, however often he may have had them during the day.

The dress of children should be light and easy, applied with little trouble, and fastened by strings rather than pins. Even in the present more rational period it might be much simplified, and, like an eastern robe, be put on and fastened with a girdle. In the most improved state of the dress at this time, there is only to blame the succession with which different things of different temperatures are to be worn and exchanged.

The medical treatment of children is the subject of the third lecture; and on this also truth is simply and easily attained. The declamation against quack medicines should have been confined rather to their abuse. We are equally unwilling with Dr. Willich to abridge the profits of a profession by which we live; but if the quack will prepare a medicine in a more portable and pleasing form than the apothecary, there can be no objection to ordering it. We would not put Dalby's Carminative, for instance, into the hands of every nurse, who would stupefy the child to gain an hour or two of repose; but should have little doubt of giving it to our own children, or directing its dose from an apothecary. We know, too, many forms of worm medicines which we cannot so pleasingly imitate. It is the abuse therefore, as we have said, that should be opposed. With respect to other medicines, the materia medica of children may be very limited. Evacuants of the stomach and bowels are the principal; and every one knows that children not only bear with advantage the action of drastics, but are

Digitized by Google

greatly benefited by them. Dr. Willich prefers the purgatives to emetics; and, were we obliged to choose either exclusively, we should do the same. Restringents and opiates, sometimes warmed with spices, are often necessary under proper guidance; but for sudorifics and tonics we see little room, unless antimonials be classed among the former. For worm medicines, except we consider drastic purges as such, we see little occasion. Should anthelmintics be requisite, the helleboraster only is to be depended on; and this, from the smallness of the dose, may be easily disguised. In fact, fever certainly kills worms, and the drastic medicines only discharge them. We know a fine boy who had several worm fevers, as they have been called; but in every instance the fever had receded before the animals were discharged.

On other points, Mr. Northmore's and Rousseau's opinions are mentioned with respect. The object of the latter is to strengthen the mind and body before any instruction be communicated. This subject has been too often discussed to enable us to offer one new idea. We may soon return to it, and shall therefore only now take occasion to repeat what we have formerly insisted on, that the train of education should be conducted by the natural and gradual evolution of the intellectual powers. Memory is most early exerted, and we could wish it to be employed, not overburthened. While the powers of observation are engaged in the works of nature, while the mind is exercised by drawing consequences equally obvious and easy, the memory may be stored by mere amusement, sometimes even by learning rules, which should be early impressed, because they should be long retained. Rousseau's error is that of every systematic who follows too implicitly his own doctrine. The boy of early and premature intellectual acquisition seldom fills up the expectation which his first rapid improvement excited; and his mental knowledge, should it not be superficial, is often acquired at the expense of his bodily health. The chief object of a parent should be to procure the *mens sana in corpore sano*; but numerous are the hours which may be filled by improvement without encroaching on these important points. Yet this part of the system Rousseau has overlooked—*his* children were to be found among the *enfans trouvés*.

Mr. Northmore is himself a parent, and well qualified to judge of Rousseau's doctrines; yet he must know that the physical education of children, as directed by the visionary of Geneva, cannot be always practised without injury, or at least without danger. He also, with our author, speaks in favour of private tuition. It is a subject which we have examined repeatedly in all its views, and with all its bearings. Many a heart-ache should we have been saved, could we have acquiesced in the eligibility of private tuition; but we could only admit

Digitized by Google

it to possess plausibility, if we were to educate a recluse philosopher. The child destined to live in the world must begin to live in it from his early years, and be accustomed to endure 'fortune's buffets and her frowns' as well as her smiles, to see vice as well as virtue, and to be guarded against the deceitful colouring of the former, as well as admonition and the better experience of others, properly pointed out, can contribute to render it odious. Many have been the refinements in this line, and delusive the prospects held out by the masters of many private seminaries; but we have not seen men of *more* virtue produced from these than from the public schools, and we have never beheld men of *equal* knowledge and learning.

The introductory lectures of the translator have led us farther than we had proposed; yet, like Sterne, we have been digressive and progressive also; for we have anticipated much that might have been suggested by M. Struve's work.

When we examine the volume itself, we are greatly surprised at its having been offered to the English reader entire. The abuses of the nursery in Germany have been in a great degree corrected in England; and the management, as well as the diet, is so different in the two countries, that the rules recommended for the one are scarcely applicable to the other. But, after close attention to children, and long experience in their diseases and management, we are astonished that either should be regarded as a subject of difficulty. They are human beings, as we have said, in miniature—but still human. 'Has not the infant eyes, hands, organs, dimensions, senses, affections, and passions? If you prick them, do they not bleed? If you tickle them, do they not laugh? If you poison them, do they not die?' They are weaker than the adult; more irritable and more impetuous. But if weaker, their bulk is smaller, and they rest on their legs with less weight; they fall with less force; if more irritable, their motions are more easily appeased; if more impetuous, their violence is more transitory. Every thing excites wonder; but few things, to a child that has not been previously intimidated, excite fear. Without experience of injury he feels no dread. If he fall violently, surprise for a moment will excite a cry; but if he see no one terrified, he will not continue to cry, unless materially hurt—for an active child is careless of a slight pain or inconvenience. He soon becomes sensible of his power and consequence, and should therefore never experience either; nor should he be led to consider disappointment but as a thing of course. He should have no assistance in what he can do himself, and soon be brought to consider every assistance to be a kindness, not a duty, from those around him, and taught that it is equally expected from him to those who are still weaker than himself.

Digitized by Google

Few children are selfish unless they are stinted in food or little indulgences; but when a child is so, the remedy is, we fear, obtained with difficulty; for reason is useless. They soon acquire ideas of property, and seldom infringe on that of their companions. They have been considered as cruel, but this charge we think by no means well founded. They strike without knowing that they injure; and every feeling of their own is so transitory, that they cannot pity those in distress from a recollection of what they have suffered; and they can form no other idea of either disease or pain.—But we are wandering from our author.

After some collateral disquisition, M. Struve gives general principles of education applicable to the early periods, the conduct to be observed during pregnancy, with some remarks on injurious and superstitious customs, handed down in succession among midwives. The whole of this might have been greatly shortened or suppressed, as even in the remotest provinces these customs are in a great degree obsolete. The chapter on the proper establishment of a nursery contains a few hints of importance; but that on the nutriment of children is not very applicable to our customs. Perhaps the old maxim of *sanis omnia sana* may be applied to them, if limited to plain meat, and, when the teeth have appeared, to animal food, in different proportions, once in twenty-four hours.

The third chapter is on dress, and contains some singular fancies. In general no part of a child's dress should be tight; and the form is then indifferent, if easily put on. The chapter on walking and exercise, for the most part, is of more importance; and perhaps carrying the children in a basket, as is common in Germany, may be occasionally useful. Few authors have noticed the pernicious method of dancing the children by supporting the breast—for if the child be in danger, the ribs are forcibly compressed to secure him, and, should he fall backward, there is no support. If danced on the left hand, the right should support him under the axilla, bringing the fingers over the shoulder, and in this situation the most active child could not spring out of the arms, nor could he receive any injury from firmly holding him.

The chapters on air and cleanliness merit our approbation. What relates however to bathing is not perfectly correct or clear. M. Struve is less accurate still in fixing the limits of the warm and tepid baths; and he is erroneous in confining the child to the latter during the first two years. The cold bath may be used, within twice two months, with moderate precautions gradually lessening the heat of luke-warm water, daily. The account of professor Pallas's cosmetic we shall select.

'The celebrated professor Pallas mentions, in his Travels through

Digitized by Google

the Southern Provinces of Russia, lately published in Germany (vol. i. p. 232), that a Mr. Zettler, an apothecary at Astrakhan, prepared, at his request, an admirable and harmless cosmetic of the flowers of the *nymphæa nelumbo*, or, as it is called by the Indians, *lilifar*, which grows in great abundance in the inlets of the river Volga, and the fruit or nuts of which are searched for and eaten with avidity by the natives, who regard them as sacred. "These flowers," says Pallas, "have a very agreeable flavour; the water distilled from them has the fragrant and permanent taste of genuine ambra; and, used as a lotion, it imparts such softness and delicacy to the skin of the face and hands, that it deserves to be introduced as an innocent cosmetic into all the apothecaries' shops."—Although I do not approve of the learned professor's advice to introduce a general cosmetic, yet I think proper to inform the reader of a discovery which, if applied to practice, might perhaps tend to banish from the toilette of our fashionable ladies the destructive compositions of lead, mercury, and other virulent metals.' P. 348.

The two last chapters are on juvenile employments and affections of the mind. In the first part considerable improvements have been made in England; which renders it less valuable to the English reader. From the latter we shall select a specimen of the work.

'Avarice is the offspring of improper treatment: it originates from increasing the wants of children, by granting whatever their fancy induces them to demand, by overloading them with a variety of useless toys, and satisfying every wish. Thus the multiplicity of their desires, instead of being checked by prudent refusal, is constantly encouraged by the most extravagant indulgence: on the contrary, if they had remained unacquainted with a number of unnecessary articles, which not only serve for amusement, but lay the foundation for future convenience and luxury, they would never have claimed such unlimited favours. In order to remedy errors of this kind, we must steadily and inexorably refuse their unreasonable applications, especially those made with a view to obtain play-things conducive to no end; because a different conduct will be productive of endless solicitations, and parents will at length become slaves to the caprice of their own progeny.

'Ambition is likewise the result of a defective education. When children are caressed and indulged in all their frivolous requests; when their orders are considered as peremptory; when we continually tease them with questions, and offer them new proofs of our fondness; in short, when the infant miss or master is provided with a separate attendant, who is exclusively at their imperious command—how can it be reasonably expected that such mismanagement is calculated to impress their susceptible minds with any other but ambitious and despotic ideas?

'Curiosity is a laudable inclination; for a boy destitute of it affords no hope of eminent intellectual acquirements; and there is reason to apprehend that he will become an indolent and simple member of society. Fortunately, however, most children possess a considerable

Digitized by Google

share of that instinctive desire of knowledge; so that we ought rather to guard against giving unqualified answers to their questions, than to rouse their inquisitive minds for premature reflexions. For this reason, our reply should always be clear to their comprehension; and if we are obliged, from the nature of their queries, to treat them with evasion, it would be more proper to divert their attention to some sensible object, than to intrude upon them a fictitious explanation.

'Voracity, and a longing for particular dainties, are of artificial origin, and arise in children who are accustomed to excess in eating, or in whose presence adults frequently express a degree of pleasure on having partaken of delicious viands. Young people are not naturally addicted to either gluttony or epicurism; and if their nutriment be sweet and wholesome, they will not easily require a change, which might corrupt their appetite or impair their palate. Hence subtances which stimulate the latter and vitiate the former, such as spices, sweet-meats, or pastry, have a direct tendency to produce gluttons. It is however no difficult task to habituate our progeny to a frugal and simple diet, which, when diluted with plain and pure water, is most conducive to their health and future prosperity. Thus trained up, under the inspection of judicious parents, they will not overload their stomach with a greater portion of food and drink than their tender organs can digest. Besides, it deserves to be remarked in this place, that the rearing of a voracious child is attended with double the expense, which might be more advantageously bestowed on the cultivation of its mental faculties.' P. 393.

The appendix relates to the periods of evolution during the age of childhood, and to juvenile amusements, with respect to their influence on health. These merit no great commendation, and offer no important subject of remark.

ART. VI.—*The Maid of Lochlin: a Lyrical Drama. With Legendary Odes and other Poems. By William Richardson, A.M. &c.* 8vo. 3s. *Boards.* Vernor *and* Hood. 1801.

THE dramatic sketches of Dr. Sayer have long since proved by example how well the Runic mythology is adapted to poetry. The subject which professor Richardson has chosen permits him to contrast the savage Scandinavian belief with the superstition delineated in Ossian. His story is from Fingal. It opens with a scene between Agandecca and the queen of Lochlin her mother, in which the love of the princess for Fingal appears. Her father Starno had approved and encouraged the attachment, but, from personal and religious motives, had afterwards broken off all alliance with the king of Morven, who is now therefore returned to right himself by arms. A messenger enters with the tidings that the troops of Lochlin have fled, and

Digitized by Google

that Starno himself, having been vanquished in single fight, is reconciled to Fingal. The two kings return, and preparations are made for the marriage that is to confirm their friendship.

Act II. Starno and the priest of Odin plot the destruction of Fingal. Agandecca is summoned to the temple—Her father tells her that his life is endangered, and that it is she who must save him.

'*Agandecca*, Héar me, ye powers!
Exalted on your golden thrones, beneath
The radiant canopy of high Valhala!
Now hear, and ratify my solemn vow!
I will perform whatever task or labour
My sire shall now impose; and will endure
Whatever toil or suffering he ordains.
'*Starno*. What glory shall betide thee! how thy praise
Shall beam emblazon'd in the roll of fame!
For in all periods of recording time,
In every realm beneath the cope of heaven,
When female virtue shall become the theme
Of honour'd commendation, men will say,
"Who every paragon'd the Maid of Lochlin!
Who, to preserve her father, and to save
Her people from oppression, in the prime
Of youth, and beauty, sacrific'd—her love!"
'*Agand*. Ha! sacrific'd her love!—her life!—My life
I'll freely sacrifice.—In truth, my father,
My hearing cozens my conviction.—Sure
Thou wouldst not bid me—"sacrifice my love!"
'*Starno*. My child, my gentle child, this alien prince,
So gallant in his outward seeming, hides,
Beneath his smiling courtesies, a spirit
Rank with ambition and deceit.
'*Agand*. Fingal!
'*Starno*. And now conspires, successfully conspires,
To reave me of my life.
'*Agand*. Some impious caitif
Hath been suborn'd, by envious machination,
To blast his spotless honour.
'*Starno*. Nay, his heart
Festers with guilt, even in its inmost fold.
'*Agand*. Great and magnanimous, canst thou allow
The taint of mean suspicion to infect
And stain thy upright thoughts? Or thus incline thee
To lend an ear to spiteful tales and glosses?
'*Starno*. Go to! he is thy lover! and thy tears,
And vows, and promises, a specious veil
To hide the mystery of thy deceit.
Leagu'd in the guilty tie, thy sorrow flows
For the detection, not for the design.
Nay, weep not so, nor mar the peerless grace

Digitized by Google

That wins such loyalty of princely passion.
I've reign'd full long enough: henceforth, thy years
Shall run unwearied their career of joy.
'*Agand.* No joy, no comfort shall I ever know:
Lost to thy love, lost to thy dear esteem,
I care not now for any joy on earth.
'*Starno.* But thou hast sworn; and thy spontaneous oath
Is register'd above.—This sudden gloom,
And pealing thunders, are, with awful menace,
Sure intimations of offended heaven.
And lo! the priest of Odin! See in phrensy
He rolls his fiery eye, and fearless scans
The blazing path of the tremendous lightning.
Aghast he pauses; and his heaving breast
Toils with extreme emotion: now his lips
Trembling, and pale, mutter in broken sounds
Strange accents, falt'ring, and uncouth: and now
His gaze is fixt on thee.
'*Agand.* Almighty power!
Save me! defend me! [*Exit* Starno.

'*Re-enter* High Priest.

'*High Priest.* Save thy native land,
Thy father, and thy people, from destruction!
Repent thee of thy folly; purge thy bosom
From the pollution of intended guilt,
The taint and baseness of a low-born passion.
'*Agand.* With daring purpose, or with conscious will,
Never have I incens'd celestial power.
Yet, holy seer! if e'er, by reckless word,
Or inconsiderate deed, or by omission
Of sacred duties, I have thus incurr'd
The wrath of heaven, O tell me the amount
Of my unwilling trespass! interpose,
And save me; for thy orisons arise
With powerful intercession.
'*High Priest.* I can chain
Th' impetuous winds, and from her silver sphere
Call down the troubled moon: I can arrest,
Reluctant in his course, the star of day:
Can, with the potency of magic spells,
Shake the vast mountain, heave the solid earth
From her foundation; and, with wild uproar,
Can drive the affrighted ocean to his deeps:
I can unbind the fetters of the grave,
And from the dust call forth the shivering ghost,
Gasping with faltering accent, to reveal
The horror of his doom. I with a breath
Can blast thee; in thy livid veins congeal
The living current, and thy frame, condens'd,
Change to a mass of marble. Odin claims

Digitized by Google

The life of him whose lawless arm would seize
The sceptre of our kingdom; and requires
Thee to resign him to his destin'd dole;
Nor to reveal what thou hast seen, or heard,
Till Vengeance have her fill.
'*Agand.* Ha! can I move?
And breathe?—I've suffer'd change! I'm fashion'd now,
By thy volition, a mere passive engine,
Doom'd to perform thy pleasure. Yet, ye powers!
Who rule the destinies of human life,
If ye require me to defile my soul
With perfidy, and base inhuman guilt,
I will not deem you powerful, but compell'd
Yourselves by dire necessity.
'*High Priest.* Beware,
Rash maid, of impious utterance!
'*Agand.* Well I know
That heaven, in mercy, and for our amendment,
Tries us with sore affliction: but will heaven
Require us to be guilty?
'*High Priest.* Thou wert born
To be the ruin of our land, and whelm
Thy father with despair, whose dying breath
Will blast thee. Yet thou might'st have proved the stay
And prop of Lochlin, and have risen the guardian
Of Odin's holy worship. Now, approach,
Thou most afflicted, ill-requited father!
And to preserve thy nation, and thyself,
From woes unutterable, here pronounce
A solemn ban on thy rebellious child.

'*Re-enter* Starno.

'*Agand.* Forbear! my honour'd father, O forbear!
Ye holy ministers of heaven, that cleave
The sky with livid lightning, pierce this bosom,
Before my father tear me from his heart.
I am no more the thing I was, I'm model'd
To move by your direction: I am reft
Of reason, will, and inclination!—Oh!
That I were reft of them!—But I obey.
'*High Priest.* And now the solemn cov'nant is enroll'd
In fate's immutable, eternal record.' P. 26.

Act III. All things are prepared for the marriage ceremony. Fingal, alarmed at the evident disquietude of Agandecca, expresses his suspicion of treachery: his bard Ullin pours a song of prophetic fear. Agandecca however is led in by her father, and the priest commands her to present the poisoned cup.

'*High Priest.* Illustrious pair! Morven and Lochlin's pride!
May Odin, with his heavenly host, regard
This covenant with complacency, and shower

Digitized by Google

Celestial influence on this fair alliance!
Fingal, to thy betroth'd, selected bride,
Present that garland, interwoven with flowers
Of sovran virtue, as an emblem meet
Of honour and esteem. Thou, royal virgin,
Loveliest of northern maidens, to thy consort
Present this cup, in token of thy fealty,
And kind endeavour to allay his cares.
O may that precious liquor yield composure,
And gentle comfort from the toils of life!

'*Agand. (trembling, and receiving the cup.)* And of that comfort may not I partake?
Have I no need of solace?

'*High Priest.* Hold! profane not
The sacred mystery with thy reckless deed.

'*Agand.* Believe me, holy seer! if this contain
Soft antidote, or medicine for the pangs
Of heart-felt anguish, I am much in need
Of the refreshing beverage.

'*High Priest.* Peace! beware!
Nor with unseasonable speech disturb
This holy rite. The vollied lightning darts
With instant fury from the depth of heaven,
And cleaves the heart of whosoever dare
Profane our solemn act.

'*Agand.* And shall I then
Become insensible? Shall I be free
From anguish? and my heart no longer throb
With direful horror? Come, thou rapid flame!
And rescue me from suffrance; and I'll hail thee
A minister of mercy!

'*High Priest.* Woes, and pains,
The miseries that fancy, when the rage
Of fever fires the wild'ring brain, presents
With fiend-like visages, shall in thy lot
Be realised, if now, with heinous insult,
Thou dare incense the wrath of heavenly power.
Proffer the precious beverage; it implies
The vow of fealty and sincere obedience.

'*Agand.* Fealty to thee, and to thy will obedience?

'*High Priest.* Nay! to thy faithful and illustrious bridegroom,
Whom, by this solemn deed, thou wilt espouse
Thy husband, and thy lord.

'*Agand. (Throwing away the cup.)* Fealty to him!—
Down to the ground, perfidious potion! down!
Now let the levin flash, and Odin thunder,
And the deep cavern'd earth gape to receive me!
No dread of punishment, and no reward
Shall ever force, or lure me, to commit
A deed that the pure spirit of my soul
With condemnation and abhorrence spurns.

Digitized by Google

'*High Priest.* What awful profanation! hapless maid!
What cause impell'd thee to this impious act?
'*Agand.* Ask *you* the cause? 'tis a tremendous cause!—
It is, alas! that I am doom'd to sorrow!
Doom'd by your wisdom! not, I trust, by those
Who govern and have pity on mankind.
[*Exeunt* Agandecca, Queen, *and their attendants.*' P. 47.

The fourth act opens with a song of Ullin the bard. He urges Fingal to quit the country. Agandecca also, labouring with the secret that she dares not disclose, entreats him to fly:—her character is well supported.

'*Agand.* Fingal, thou know'st
That not a wish or thought were ever harbour'd
Within this bosom, that would shrink abash'd
From the severest scrutiny of truth.
'*Fingal.* I know thee pure, even as the light of heaven!
'*Agand.* Nor am I sham'd to tell thee, that my heart,
Which never glow'd with any flame but that
Imparted by thine own, prays and implores thee
To speed thy parting hence. Thy generous bosom
Will long remember me!—Nay! no embrace!
I know thy tenderness; but, from this hour,
I hold all tenderness of love an alien,
And banish'd from my bosom. For my soul
Is arm'd for higher purposes; has duties
Of awful import to perform: and these
Duly discharg'd, as honour, and the power,
That in my breast informs me; shall I die?
No; I will act as th' inmate of my soul,
The beam that issues from the throne of heaven
To light my road of trial, shall direct me. [*Exit.*' P. 64.

Starno, understanding that the king of Morven is resolved to depart, requests that at least they may separate with an appearance of friendship, and therefore invites him to hunt the boar on the following morning: he has prepared an ambush, and in his anger he discloses his purposed vengeance to Agandecca, telling her that the sound of the clarion will be the signal for her lover's death.

Act V. Agandecca discovers the treason to Fingal, first obtaining from him an oath to spare her father's life. The clarion sounds—the troops of Morven are in readiness, and

'*An engagement, as here described, passes along the back part of the scene.*

'*Agand.* See! to deal immediate death,
Flies the falchion from the sheath!
And along the woody glade
Flashes the pursuing blade.

Digitized by Google

Louder yet the furious roar!
Now the forest streams with gore.
Cruel, cruel men, assuage
Timely your inhuman rage.
Turn on me th' avenging sword!
Let me perish undeplor'd:
Me, the cause of vengeful hate!
In my heart your fury sate.
The shouting ceases: the disast'rous fates
Are ratified! and now an awful pause
Succeeds; and now what dismal doom awaits
Me, of this feud the miserable cause!' P. 86.

This song is very absurdly introduced—we cannot conceive any thing more ridiculous. In the event, Agandecca, running to save her father is stabbed by him. Starno, repenting too late, kills the high priest: he himself is saved from the sword of Fingal by the dying prayer of his daughter.

Professor Richardson will rank higher among critics than among poets. We remember his Essays upon Shakspeare with a feeling that renders it painful to censure a name so respectable. The lyric parts are even more feeble than the dramatic.

A few short pieces fill up the remainder of the volume.

ART. VII.—*A Tour from Downing to Alston Moor. By Thomas Pennant, Esq. 4to. 1l. 11s. 6d. Boards.* Harding. 1801.

THIS Tour is introductory to the author's Scottish Journey; for the latter commences at Alston Moor: and its termination, by Hackfall and Fountains Abbey to Harrowgate and Bramham Craggs may, it is said, be expected in future. Our author's own account of his progress we shall transcribe from his 'Literary Life,' as quoted in the advertisement.

'The subject of part of this journey will be found among my Posthumous Works, illustrated with drawings by Moses Griffith. This will take in the space from Downing to Orford; from thence to Knowsley, Sefton, Ormskirk, Latham, and (crossing the country) to Blackburn, Whalley-abbey, Ribchester, Mitton, Waddington-hall, and Clithero, most of them in the county of Lancashire. In that of York I visited Salley-abbey, Bolton-hall, Malham Coves, Settle, Giggleswick, and Ingleton. I then crossed the Lune to Kirkby-Lonsdale, and visited all the parts of Westmoreland and Cumberland omitted in my printed Tours of 1769 and 1772; and, finally, I finished this MS. volume at Alston, near the borders of Durham.'

Our respect for Mr. Pennant,—for we think we have fully proved that we possess no inconsiderable regard for his memory

Digitized by Google

by checking the forward injudicious zeal of his panegyrist,—our respect, we say, has carried us to the extreme verge, and we must deprecate any farther publication of these antiquated accounts. The country through which he passed is now essentially changed; and though it may be alleged that his narrative in general relates to very distant æras, and the events of other centuries, yet in a tour we have a right to expect a description of the present state of the districts through which his course is directed. The drawings of Moses Griffith, also, are no very valuable additions; though, in his delineation of ancient remains, he succeeds far better than in that of natural objects. Some of his picturesque drawings from nature, in Mr. Pennant's other Tours, burlesque the accounts they were intended to illustrate. The present unreasonably splendid and expensive volume is full of the representations of the remains of former times; and many of these, we repeat, are well executed. One or two are added from a different artist, and may have been introduced by the editor.

Our readers will perceive that the traveler proceeds from Downing northward, deviating somewhat to the west, to Ormskirk, and thence north-east to the borders of Yorkshire; but he seems to have advanced no farther into Yorkshire than Malham. He thence returns westward to Kendal in Westmoreland, and continues nearly in a northerly direction to Appleby. He enters Cumberland at Penrith. From Penrith he takes a circuit a little to the east, and proceeds to Longtown, on the borders of Scotland, through Brampton, visiting Askerton hall and some of the neighbouring spots, to Alston Moor. We shall add the

'List of Plates.

'Painted glass at Warrington; Orford-hall; tomb of sir Thomas Boteler; Edward earl of Derby; Charlotte countess of Derby; Sefton church; Lydiate chapel; Houghton tower; sir Edward Osbadiston; Clithero castle; ancient altar at Ribchester; Kirkby-Lonsdale bridge; Dr. Shaw; Overton church; Tomb of sir —— de Musgrave, &c.; Wharton-hall; Philip duke of Wharton; Lamerside-hall; Pendragon castle; Brough church; Appleby castle; tomb of the countess of Cumberland; Three-brother tree; Anne Clifford's column; Naworth castle; Llanercost priory; Beu castle.' p. viii.

We find it difficult to copy any adequate specimens of the present volume. To the antiquarian it will be sometimes interesting; but to the general reader, to the admirer of nature, either in her simplest or most ornamented dress, there is little to attract. It is our business, however, to enable the reader to judge for himself; and we shall select passages of different kinds for this purpose.

We meet very early with a description of a distinct class in

Digitized by Google

society, which has been usually confounded with the nobility: indeed in Scotland, where the Saxon government never extended, they were really of superior rank, and in some other districts their holdings were of a different description.

'The *tains*, thanes, or gentry, who held of the king during the Saxon period, in this tract, held their *teinland* by payment of two *ore* for every plough-land; by assisting in building the houses of the king, in the same manner as if they had been villeyns; in making the fisheries, and the inclosures and toils within the woods: if they failed, they forfeited two shillings, and after that were obliged to attend till the work, whatsoever it was, was completed. They were also to send, for one day in the month of August, men to cut the royal corn, or forfeit the like sum. The royal manor was at that period at Derby, and contained six berewicks or townships; had fifteen caracæ, or plough-lands, a forest two leagues long and one broad, and an aërie of hawks.

'If any of these thanes committed a theft, or *forestell*, i. e. obstruct any one on the way, probably for the purpose of forestalling; or committed *heinfar*, i. e. flies his country on the commission of any crime, or broke the peace of the king, he forfeited forty shillings.

'If any of them either drew blood from, or ravished a woman, or did not attend the *scyre-mote*, or county-court, without a reasonable excuse, they were fined in ten shillings; and if they departed out of their hundred, and did not answer at the court, on being summoned by the *præpositus*, or *hundred-greve*, forfeited five shillings. This court appears to me to have been the *folc-mote*, where all the freemen of the kingdom were obliged to appear annually, with their arms, according to their degrees, for the inspection of their officer, who was to examine whether they were in good order.

'If the *hundred-greve* directed any of them to do his service, and he refused, a fine was imposed of four shillings.

'If any of them was desirous of quitting the royal lands, he might, on payment of forty shillings, be at liberty to go wheresoever he pleased. If any wished to succeed to the lands of his father, he must pay an acknowledgment of forty shillings; which if he refused to do, both land and money fell to the king.

'These thanes were the gentry of the Saxon times. They were not created, but received rank according to increase of property. At that period there were *eorls* and *ceorls* (earls and churls), *thegn* and *theoden*, thanes and under-thanes. "For, if a churl thrived so as that he had fully five hides of his own land, a church, a kitchen, a bell-house and a gate, a seat and several offices in the king's hall, then was he henceforth the thein's right worthie. And if a thein so thrive that he served the king, and on his progresse ryd in his householde; if then he had a thein that followed him; the which to the king's five hides (ploughlands) had, and in the king's palace his lord served, and thrice with his errand had gone to the king, he might afterwards, with his fore othe his lord's part play at any great need. And if a thein did thrive so that he became an earl, then was he afterwards worthie the rights of an earl; and if a merchant so

Digitized by Google

thrived that he passed thrice over the wide sea by his own crafe, he was thenceforth a thein right worthy." Let me add, that, so late as the reign of Henry I. they were placed in rank immediately after earls, and before the knights.

'By this we may see a wise policy in those early times, by the great encouragement given to industry; that promotion attended frugal ambition, and sloth was punished with a continuance in a low and servile state.

'Verstegan, p. 233, translates *theyn* or *thegn*, as free servants. "Hence," says he, "cometh *thyen* or *thiene*, to serve; and that the prince of Wales's motto, *Ich dien*, I serve, is derived from the word *Ik thian*, *d* and *th* in our more ancient language being indifferently used.' P. 6.

The evidence of the Roman road passing over the river at Latchford, though supported by the 'learned Whitaker,' our author thinks of little value, as the rampart was thrown up in modern times by his 'honest friend Matthew Lyon, to form an elevated retreat for sheep in the time of high floods.' Antiquarianism has produced many a sickly offspring; and the *learned* Whitaker is one of its *weakest* sons. We have often met him on this ground, and treated him with little ceremony. Mr. Pennant himself frequently sneers at him, but seldom troubles himself to oppose him.

The account of Sankey Brook navigation is antiquated, and its present state might have been added. The same observation may be extended to the duke of Bridgewater's canal, and many similar undertakings. The state of the manufactures has also been greatly altered: some have flourished exceedingly, and many new ones been introduced; others, on the contrary, have considerably declined:—but it is not our business to introduce a supplement to the Tour.

The account of Knowsley, the seat of the earl of Derby, and the eventful history of that family, was to us interesting, as it contains many facts not generally known.

The descriptions of churches and monuments are perhaps too extensive; but tastes differ;—we would preserve the essential facts without the detail. The account of Latham-house, and the Roman antiquities at Ribchester, are in a great measure interesting, but admit not of an extract. We shall select a short specimen of our author's manner from his description of Bolton-hall, one of the gloomy residences of our ancient gentry, whose modes of life merit a description before the memory of them be wholly lost, if it were only to serve as a contrast to the satirists of the present manners. Nothing could be more truly uncomfortable.

'I crossed the Ribble at Sawley-bridge, and, after a short ride, visited Bolton-hall. This is one of the few ancient houses which existed at least prior to the reign of Henry VI., belonging to some

Digitized by Google

of the common gentry. It is a very plain building; the hall is ascended to by several steps; it is very dark, has a timbered roof, and a narrow gallery, whose floor and stair-case is formed of massy oak. The situation is on one of the *collines* of the country, finely backed with wood, but little less gloomy than when it gave protection to the vagrant Henry, who by turns took shelter in the different houses of this neighbourhood. He left here behind him, as memorials, a pair of boots of brown tanned leather lined with fur, the soles of a most uncommon narrow form, the legs furnished with buttons in the spatterdash fashion, the tops great and high.

'Here are also a pair of his gloves, which show him to have had a very small hand: these are likewise furred, but with no finer materials than the hair of the common deer. I was also shown the spoon that Henry used to eat with; and a well, in which he is said to have bathed, which was for a long time as much venerated by the country people as that of our St. Winifred; for the poor prince, from the innocency of his life, and his great sufferings, wanted nothing but canonisation to make him as respectable a saint as most in the popish calendar.

'This place is at present owned by Christopher Dawson, esq. in right of his mother and aunt Pudsey, heiresses of the estate. The Pudseys had been many centuries in possession: they came originally from Barford upon the Tees, and are said to have sprung from a natural son of Hugh Pudsey, bishop of Durham, who died in 1194. In the reign of Edward II. one of his descendents married one of the co-heiresses of John de Bolton; and from that time the family have chiefly resided here, Barford having been long since alienated. The other daughter bestowed her share of the Bolton estate on Salley-abbey. Bolton-church is about half a mile north of the hall, is dedicated to St. Peter, and a rectory in the gift of Mr. Dawson. It has in it several memorials of the Pudsey family—such as an ancient font, said to have been brought from Forset-church in Richmondshire, in which parish stands Barford, their former seat. About the font are the arms of Percy, Clifford, Tempest, and Hamerton.—Pudsey and Laiton quarterly; Pudsey *per se;* Banks *per pale;* Pudsey and Tunstal; and this inscription—*Orate pro animabus Dni Radulphi Pudsey* milit. *et Emmæ* uxor. ejus, et Dom. *G. Pudsey, fil. ejus, quondam rector. eccl. istius.*

'A very curious altar-tomb, with a slab of black marble on the top, ten feet long, five feet nine inches wide, and nine inches thick. On it is most curiously engraven the figure of a Pudsey in armour, with his arms, three mullets on his breast; his head resting on two deer; a vast sword hangs on one side of him, a shorter on the other. On one hand are two of his wives, on the other a third—all in mantles down to their heels; long petticoats, vast spreading caps, and with most taper waists. Beneath the parents are three rows of their offspring, to the amount of twenty-five, distinguished by their dresses as warriors, prelates, abbots, gownsmen; besides nine daughters, in the dress of the times; and over each is the person's name, and an engraven arch of Gothic foliage.

'It is probable that the tomb here described was designed for Henry Pudsey of Bolton, esq. (who had a numerous issue), as ap-

Digitized by Google

pears by the following inscription, formerly thereon :—" Hic jacet Henricus Pudsey arm. Dns de Bolton, qui construxerat hanc cantariam M°CCCCC°IX° : et Margareta, uxor ejus, quæ obiit A° Dni M°CCCCC° : quor. animabus propitietur Deus." (MSS. in Bibl. J. C. Brooke de Coll. Arm.' P. 103.

The introduction of the following descriptions requires no apology.

' I breakfasted at the hamlet of Malham, about a mile and a half farther; took a walk by the side of the Air here, a rapid torrent, through a stony valley, to visit the celebrated Gordale Coves, a vast chasm open to the sky, embosomed in rock; one side projects, and in a manner wraps round the tremendous concavity, and impends so as to form a vast hollow beneath, sloping inwards from top to bottom. The material is a solid limestone, with only fissures enough to admit the growth of a few large junipers above. Out of the concavity, at a vast height, bursts forth a copious stream, which must have had a fine effect; but the passage having been destroyed by a great flood, much of its beauty is lost. This and another stream from Gordale-scar, a tremendous precipice a little to the west, form the river Air, which, passing by Gargrave near Skipton by Leeds and Ferrybridge, empties itself into the Ouse below Armyn-chapel.

' Mr. Lightfoot observed several very rare plants about these picturesque scenes. At Malham Crag, the *draba muralis*, Fl. Ang. 1, 278; and the *draba incana*, Fl. Sc. 1, 338; both called in English *whitlow-grasses*, from their supposed virtue in that disorder of the fingers: the *actæa spicata*, or *herb Christopher*, Fl. Angl. 1, 228; it is also called *bane-berry*, a stinking plant, chiefly among the repellents, yet to be used with caution, as the berries are venomous; perhaps it lies under worse repute, as toads delight to shelter under its shade: the *polemonium cæruleum*, or *Greek valerian*, and a variety with a white flower; the *saxifraga hypnoides*, or *moss saxifrage*, Fl. Sc. 1, 224; and the *satyrium albidum*, or *white satyrion*: and on the stones of the rivulet, which issues from the crag, the *lichenoides gelatinosum foliis angustioribus uniformibus* of Dillenius.

' At Gordale Cove are found also the *Greek valerian*, and the *thalictrum minus*, or small *bastard rhubarb*, or *meadow rue*, whose leaves, mixed with other pot-herbs, says old Gerard, do somewhat move the belly.

' I returned to Malham, ascended a steep hill, and crossed a range of mountains over a bad and unfrequented road, with a most dreary prospect around, of vast extent of stony mountain, mixed with scanty pasturage. Gordale-scar appeared to great advantage beneath, the sun shining full on it, and showing its precipitous surface as smooth and resplendent as glass.

' I saw Malham-tarn in a bottom amidst the hills, a small lake about two miles round, famous for trout and perch. The waters which flow from this lake immediately sink under ground, and form a subterraneous river about half a mile in length, and appear again, in open day, bursting out from the precipice of Gordale-scar.

' The stones on the hills I was traveling over were abundantly

Digitized by Google

scattered about, and of singular structure, flatted at top, and laminated beneath, evidently the work of water, and the nodular subsidences at the great event of the deluge.' P. 108.

'Among the plants (of Ingleborough) the botanist will find that pigmy willow the *salix herbacea*, Fl. Sc. 12, 600; and the *S. reticulata*, or *wrinkled willow*, 601. The sweet plant the *rhodiola rosea*, or *rosewort*, Fl. Sc. 11, 619, grows here; useful to the Greenlanders for food; to the natives of the Feroe Isles in the scurvy; the fresh roots, applied in form of a cataplasm, are said to relieve the head-ach and to heal malignant ulcers; a water, fragrant as that of roses, may be distilled from them. Those elegant plants the *saxifraga oppositifolia* and *autumnalis*, Fl. Sc. 1, 222, are to be met with here; and the *actæa spicata*, spoken of before.

'My friend met with here the *epilobium angustifolium*, or *rosebay willow herb*, Fl. Sc. 1, 196, a flowering plant worthy of our gardens. We have of late discovered that the down of the seeds has been manufactured, with cotton or beaver's hair, into stockings, filleting, bindings, &c. The down is obtained by drying the seed-vessels in an oven, then thrashing and riddling the seeds from the down, which is carded with the cotton or fur. The beastly Kamtschadales brew a sort of ale from the pith, and have invented an intoxicating liquor from the infusion of the leaves; they also eat the young shoots which trail beneath the ground.

'To these plants I must add the *ophrys cordata*, or *heart-shaped tway-blade*, Fl. Sc. 1, 524; the *sedum villosum*, or *marsh stonecrop*, Fl. Sc. 1, 237; and the *lichen aphthosus*, or *green-ground liverwort*, Fl. Sc. 11, 848. It takes its trivial name from the use made of it by the people of Uplaed in Sweden, who, in cases of the aphtha or thrush in children, give them an infusion of this plant in milk. A decoction of it in water is besides used in Sweden, which operates as a purge and vomit, and is efficacious in worm complaints.

'The *lycopodium alpinum*, and *selago*, Fl. Sc. 11, 687, 690, are common amidst these hills: the last is a most valuable plant in the northern regions. The Swedes make of it coarse mats: the Russians use the powder of the capsules to heal galls in children, chopped skins, or other sores: the Poles, with a decoction of it, foment the heads of those afflicted with the filthy disorder of their country, the *plica Polonica*, and, as is said, effect the cure.

'It is observed that the capsules emit a light yellow powder, which flashes with a small explosion at the flame of a candle. Even this has been turned to use, and serves to make artificial lightening at theatrical entertainments.

'About the town of Ingleton are also a few scarce plants; such as the *serapias latifolia*, and *S. longifolia*, Fl. Sc. 1, 526, 528; the *white hellebore*, and the *neesewort* of Gerard, 442; and, to conclude the list, that rare and singular flower the *Cypripedium calceolus*, Fl. Angl. 11, 392, or *calceolus Dnæ Mariæ*, or our *lady's slipper* of old Gerard, 443, so named from its form, is sparingly met with in a wood adjoining to this place, and again near Clapham. The oddity of the plant

Digitized by Google

has increased the passion of botanists for the possession, which has rendered it still more difficult to be met with.' P. 114.

Some species of the epilobium, the leaves of which are variegated when the roots are confined, abound on the banks of rivers in the south of England, and their seeds are copiously supplied with the down here described; but we believe no use has yet been made of this plant. The accounts of Pendragon and Appleby castles are interesting; but much of the information to be collected in this part of the kingdom has been anticipated in our author's former Tours. We were also pleased with the short (perhaps the imperfect) description of Appleby, the tomb and tower of the famous Anne Clifford, with a few circumstances of her heroic life. We shall conclude our article with one other extract; adding, that it were well if other antiquaries adopted our author's skepticism.

'Not far from hence I crossed the Eden, here a beautiful stream, and the banks finely cultivated. After riding about three miles northward, I saw, in the parish of Addingham, the noted druidical temple called Long Meg and her daughters. The circle is formed of sixty-seven rude stones placed upright, and of unequal heights: all are placed single except near the entrance, where there are two stones placed without, opposite to the two which form the entrance and part of the circle. Long Meg, as the tallest stone is called, stands sixty-one feet west from the portal, and just opposite to it: it is eighteen feet high, and fourteen in its greatest girth; is composed of red grit stone, as the others are of granite, lime, and freestone. The area of the circle was covered with corn, so I must borrow its diameter from Mr. Hutchinson, who informs us it is of three hundred feet.

'I refer the curious reader to the learned Borlase for an account of the uses of these circles. Whether this was designed for religious purposes, for national assemblies, for election of princes, or for the celebration of games, as certain circles in Caernarvonshire are reasonably supposed to be, I cannot possibly determine. Nothing is left on which to found a conjecture. It might have stood in a sacred grove of oaks, the shade of which added solemnity to the rites, were they religious: were they political, the people might have stood without the circle of stones, prohibiting a nearer approach to the vulgar; if the former, the arch-druid might have stood near the lofty stone of distinction, his entrance through the portal might be preceded by an awful procession, and sacrifices and all the *fourberie* of priestcraft be performed in the centre of the area within the sight of the trembling crowd.' P. 164.

Digitized by Google

ART. VIII.—*Sermons on various Subjects. To which is added an Address to the Deity, in the Manner of Dr. Fordyce. By the Rev. Richard Marshall, A. B. &c.* 8vo. 5s. *Boards.* Richardson.

IT is not very easy to answer the question proposed by the author in his preface—'Why will people publish any more sermons?' And his own reply is not perfectly satisfactory. He conceives it possible, by changing the form of old ideas, and adding a little new matter, to 'compose tolerably elegant, very passable, and very useful practical edifying sermons.' We allow the possibility; and in this exercise a clergyman most usefully employs his time; he adds something to his own fund of knowledge, and is able to communicate much to his parish: for whatever by frequent meditation he has made his own, he can instil into the minds of his audience with much greater effect than can be obtained by the finest ideas in the finest language, if merely and servilely copied by himself, and read once a week from the pulpit. But, though the clergyman be well employed in this manner, both for himself and his parishioners, it does not by any means follow that such compositions may be adapted to the public eye, and ought to increase the number under which the press has already groaned. Let the preacher be contented with the satisfaction,—and what can be a greater; —of performing his duty in his own district, and of suiting his discourses to the capacities of his hearers. 'Tolerably elegant and very passable sermons' may be often those best adapted to such purposes; but something more is required of publications intended for the use of the world at large; and the advice long since given to poets may not be inapplicable to divines:

"——————— Mediocribus esse poëtis
Non homines, non Di, non concessere columnæ."

The writer evidently does not aim at distinguished excellence; he has however attained the more humble object of his pursuits, and has presented us with 'tolerably elegant and very passable' discourses, such as no one will go out of his way to purchase, yet which every one, should they fall in his way, may read without fatigue. The sermon on *toleration* is remarkable for the freedom with which this doctrine is maintained—a freedom indeed highly becoming the author's profession, and respecting which, it is to be lamented that so many, who call themselves Christians, should require any instruction upon such a subject. That Christians should be intolerant, seems such a solecism, such a perversion of their Master's precepts, that, if the history of the world for the last eighteen hundred years, and the practice of many, even in this country, where a

Digitized by Google

great degree of liberality is to be traced, did not prove the proneness of mankind to uncharitableness, we should conceive it absolutely impossible that any sect of Christians should abuse, insult, or plunder their neighbours, because they went to a meeting rather than a church; because, instead of taking off a hat at their prayers, they wore one; or listened to a preacher without, instead of with, a surplice. This wickedness in persons calling themselves Christians cannot be too often or too severely exposed; and such expostulations proceed with augmented propriety from a minister of the established church, who, if he be found to possess the true tolerant sentiments of his Gospel, will not only promote in a very high degree the harmony of his parish, but diminish the tendency of many to wander to other conventicles.

Yet, though mutual toleration cannot be too often inculcated from the pulpit, Scripture alone should afford both precepts and examples. Instances from profane history, however familiar to the minds of the preacher and the higher class of his congregation, are little known to the majority; and we suspect that the expulsion of the Moors from Spain, the day of St. Bartholomew, the revocation of the edict of Nantes, which with similar examples occur in one discourse, were far from making the impression intended on his audience. Still less can we approve of the epithets bestowed on Henry the Fourth of France, and Henry the Eighth of our own country; and the insinuation against queen Elizabeth is not only out of place, but scarcely justifiable from the most prejudiced account of her character. The following observation deserves serious reflexion:

'It has been observed, with great propriety, that there is a Protestant as well as a Roman-catholic popery. This we see discovering itself plainly whenever there appears in any of those churches, which have separated from the church of Rome, an intolerant, uncharitable, furious, and persecuting spirit, openly attacking those who slightly differ from them in tenets, in modes of worship, in creeds (the fabrication of men), in hierarchy, and in sacred vestments: for the same diabolical spirit incited John Calvin to burn Servetus at Geneva, as that was which provoked the Catholics in the different countries of Europe to destroy the Protestants. Let it be remembered also that persecution increases the number of those who oppose and who are punished by the persecuting power; because men are inclined to admire patient fortitude, to investigate, and often finally to embrace, those doctrines which enable those who maintain them to bear tortures with calmness and composure, and to meet death with cheerfulness and joy.

'In the reign of our first Charles, religious disputes and animosities inflamed personal hatred, and increased the miseries of civil war. The devastation, the plundering, and the enormities which were committed by the royal and parliament armies, as each proved victorious, are still visible in the ruins of many of our civil and sacred

Digitized by Google

edifices; and all the circumstances of destruction are too well known for me, in this place or at this time, minutely to relate. Even now Christians of different denominations are very far removed from that catholic spirit of philanthropy and toleration which ought to be their distinguishing characteristics.

'But I hope, from the injuries which have befallen nations as well as individuals, by the unhappy divisions which I have been describing, that Christians will never suffer their passions to be so much enkindled as to incite them again to stain the history of their religion with the commission of such shocking and enormous crimes. Let them not look on their neighbours with hatred or contempt, for maintaining sentiments differing from their own; because (the idea is not my own) it is as absurd to suppose that all minds can be brought to think alike, as that the features of every man's countenance should be exactly similar. They are all formed by the wise and good Father of the world; and to hate, to ridicule, to abuse, to insult, or to persecute any of his creatures, is an indirect affront to his Divine Majesty.' P. 139.

From this the general tenor of the discourse may be perceived; but all the sentiments on mutual benevolence might have been expressed without any harshness towards modern characters; and the mere precepts of our Saviour would probably have had more weight than all the inferences deduced from the state of countries where intolerant maxims have prevailed. As the preacher seems to have traveled out of his record, and usurped the province of the historian in one place, he will, we fear, in another instance, be called to account by the physician. Dejection of spirits, *ennui*, or the *tædium vitæ*, is a disorder by no means uncommon in this changeable climate. To resist the attacks of this foul fiend, our author has composed a prayer, to be used by the patient under his paroxysm; and in this prayer he is made to say, 'I confess with shame and contrition that I am often melancholy and dejected; that I am often discontented, restless, and unhappy, without any apparent or adequate cause for being so.' The patient goes on in this manner, informing the Deity of all the circumstances usually attendant on this disease, prays fervently for comfort in the hour of death, and expresses the strongest hope for future happiness. But during the operation of this melancholy affection the patient is naturally too much inclined to be thinking of himself and his misfortune: the great difficulty is to free him from himself, and to draw forth the mind, by easy and gradual efforts, to some exertions. It is not uncommon for very pious people to miss their aim entirely with this class of the infirm; and their well-meant endeavours have a tendency to increase rather than diminish the force of the malady. In the same manner this prayer must have an ill effect, and will fix the disorder more deeply in the mind. A general impression of the duty of resignation to God in all circumstances is to be preferred to all

Digitized by Google

such precise catalogues of symptoms. And while we give the author due praise for his powers of composition, we would recommend to him to strike out of his volume several of its sheets, and present them to physicians, to be applied by themselves in circumstances where such prayers may tend to the health of their patients.

ART. IX.—*Letters on Education. By Elizabeth Hamilton.* 8vo. 7*s. Boards.* Robinsons. 1801.

THIS work has been long under our consideration, and we ought to apologise to the fair author for our delay; at least she may be assured that it did not arise from inattention or disrespect. Miss Hamilton's object, in the volume before us, is to explain to the anxious parent the early associations of good and evil, 'on which the direction of the affections and desires of the heart so much depend.' The second volume, which has just appeared, and will we trust be soon noticed, relates to the cultivation of the understanding.

To speak of these Letters in general, we might observe that they display great judgement, an intimate knowledge of the human heart, and delicacy of sentiment, highly honourable to the writer: yet we think she commits some mistakes, and we are convinced she has not had extensive experience in the business of education. The restlessness, the waywardness of infant minds are not allowed for: she seems not to be aware how often the curb must be relaxed, to render the check easy and effectual—how often the parent or governess must yield, in order to carry conviction to the youthful mind, at least such conviction as the mind at that age will admit. We might perhaps have collected the want of experience from the title of 'spinster,' and other collateral sources; but we would derive it from the work itself. Will she allow us to add, that she too often wanders from the subject, and occasionally digresses into reflexions not properly applicable to education?

What we have lately observed of the bodily health of children we would repeat concerning their mental improvement, that a child of a naturally good disposition is not easily spoiled. Indulgence and mismanagement may for a time injure the temper; but it will be soon restored by the commerce of the world, or indeed the commerce of a large school—an epitome of the world. Youth is the season of candor, openness, and benevolence; the baser passions by degrees take root; and for this reason, the most fatal, the most incurable mental diseases of youth, are selfishness, cunning, and avarice. The first in particular is scarcely ever eradicated.

Digitized by Google

Miss Hamilton in her opening letter considers the end and object of education. But an error which pervades the whole work is, that, though she properly contemplates the infant mind, as the blank paper on which any character may be imprinted, she makes no allowance for the future corrections of reason. Reason dawns much more early than she supposes; and we have known young people argue with a force and accuracy which have not been easily eluded. The mind thus early expanded will often correct an improper bias by its own efforts, and resist an indulgence which it has experienced to be injurious. The object of education we shall however explain in her own words.

'To expose the absurdity of making mere personal accomplishments the exclusive object of attention, is an easy task; but it is, perhaps, an error little less fatal in its consequences, to direct the attention *solely* to the cultivation of the understanding, while we neglect the heart. Whoever considers the operation of the passions, and the influence of the affections upon the happiness of individuals and of society, must be sensible, that if these do not receive a proper direction in early life, the acquisition of knowledge will never render a man "wise unto happiness or unto virtue, more than unto salvation."

'If, upon taking these things into consideration, we acquire a proper view of the necessity of perfecting the intellectual and moral powers of our children, we shall adopt the means best suited to views so comprehensive. If we consider, with an amiable and enlightened philosopher, the object of education to be "first, to cultivate the various principles of our nature, both speculative and active, in such a manner as to bring them to the greatest perfection of which they are susceptible; and secondly, by watching over the impressions and associations which the mind receives in early life, to secure it against the influence of prevailing errors, and, as far as possible, to engage its prepossessions on the side of truth;" the importance of the object will command our attention, and our anxiety to accomplish it will prompt to vigorous exertion.' P. 19.

The second letter relates to the association of ideas, and the cause of their permanence. This cause is the strength of the impression, or the frequency of the repetition. Associations, permanent from the force of the impression, are those producing fear (Letter III). Though we would not assert that the terror from being left in darkness is an instinctive impression, yet it is at least one of those universal ones, which lead us to suspect the existence of instincts. The apprehension of falling is another. Each appears so early, and so generally, as to preclude the suspicion, in every instance, of terror purposely excited. Terror, frequently raised, undoubtedly, as our author observes, produces timidity, and is the parent of dissimulation; but that kind or degree of timidity is, we suspect, never the product of nursery terrors;—it is an inherent dispo-

Digitized by Google

sition, connected with the constitution; it is the timidity of the softer sex, not inconsistent with passive firmness, but wholly so with active resolution. The fear of death, enlarged on by our author, certainly never originated in the nursery. It is a part of the same constitution, which we have said cannot be produced by any error during a residence in the juvenile apartments. We would reprobate, however, as much as herself, every method of exciting fear; for this passion is evidently injurious, though we cannot agree with Miss Hamilton respecting the extent of its influence.

Associations producing aversion, the subject of the fourth letter, lead the author to examine the nature of antipathies and prejudice. The latter is defined to be desire or aversion to certain objects or opinions, by means of strong but unexamined associations. Antipathies appear so early, or, as we would rather say, from such *unknown* associations, that we have been led to consider these latter as innate, while prejudice may be allowed to arise from the *unexamined* associations of our author.

Next to the feelings of hatred and antipathy, Miss Hamilton mentions those of contempt. Expressions of this kind should, she thinks, be carefully guarded against, as they produce in the minds of those who employ them too great self-complacency. They should indeed be avoided, because a child should think nothing contemptible; should consider every thing to have its place in the scale of animated nature, connecting the chain that would otherwise be broken. The most contemptible conduct, the most contemptible insect, have each their utility; and the only feeling which folly should excite is pity. Vice must raise a different one, viz. indignation.

Much is said of the danger of connexions with servants. We admit it all; but, with Locke, we think it unavoidable. We may however ask, why it should be avoided? The child is perhaps to ocarefully secluded who never knows improper words, who never witnesses bad actions, or observes the effects of deceit and cunning. All that the parent can do is to guard against their effects. We would never have a child a spy on the conduct of servants, and would check every tale that he can bring from the kitchen or servants'-hall. An attentive parent will, however, soon catch the idea derived from these sources, and may with ease counteract the impression, by pointing out a different conduct or language in persons whom the child must know to be superior in station or accomplishments. We lately knew a boy who would swear, and be most illiberally abusive, before he spoke plain. The source was easily traced and corrected; and the fault was cured by a determined inattention to every offensive word. He soon grew ashamed of his language, which he observed rendered him an object of

Digitized by Google

disregard, and at eight years of age is a pattern of delicate and proper conversation. It is a great error in education to aim at preventing such contamination; it were as easy to prevent the infection of disease in the circumambient air. If infection must arrive, the counterpoison should be in readiness, and even anticipated.

The letters on religion are very full. On this subject we are unprepared to speak, as our experience is not sufficiently matured. At present we nearly agree with Rousseau. Religion is either a feeling, or a conviction, the result of reasoning. So far as it can interest children, or be more than a lesson repeated without understanding, it must be confined to the former; and, in our present opinions, we would limit it to inculcating the doctrine of a superintending Providence, from whom every blessing is derived, and by whose power every evil is averted. In submission to the dispensations of this benevolent Deity, in whom we live and move and have our being, we would at first nurture the infant mind. Prayer and thanksgiving follow of course; and these should be of the most general kind. More particular doctrines can only be comprehended and appreciated at an age far more mature. We cannot say that we highly approve of the letters on this subject. The author's opinions are with difficulty seised; and the whole wants that masterly comprehension which can alone make them the objects of our consent and approbation.

The letter on the cultivation of benevolence demands, on the whole, our commendation; yet it branches into some points with which the subject has little apparent connexion. Youth, as we have already said, is the period of openness, of candor, and benevolence.

'Nature early impels the mind to seek for happiness; but, before the dawn of reason and experience, the judgements concerning it must be erroneous. In infancy, all ideas concerning it are comprised in the gratification of *will*; the propensity to this gratification is encouraged by frequent indulgence, till every notion of happiness becomes connected with it. The idea of misery becomes consequently associated with disappointment; and how far these associations may affect the mind, by producing the malevolent passions, will appear evident on a very little reflexion.

'We have already remarked that the painful sensations make a more vivid as well as a more lasting impression than the pleasureable; from which it evidently follows, that the happiness derived from the gratification of *will* can never bear any proportion to the misery occasioned by its disappointment. Where the propensity to this gratification is strengthened by indulgence, the frequent repetition of disappointment will deeply impress the mind with the feelings of resentment, and thus render it liable to the reception of all the malevolent passions connected with it; while the pleasureable sensation

Digitized by Google

occasioned by indulgence will produce no other effects than to augment the desire of future gratification.

'An admirable illustration of this doctrine is given by Hartley, who, after observing that the gratification of self-will, if it does not always produce pleasure, yet is always so associated with the idea of pleasure in the mind, that the disappointment of it never fails to produce pain, proceeds as follows: "If the *will* was always gratified, this mere associated pleasure would, according to the present frame of our natures, absorb, as it were, all other pleasures; and thus, by drying up the source from whence it sprung, be itself dried up at last; and the first disappointments would be intolerable. Both of which things are observable in an inferior degree, both in adults and in children after they are much indulged. Gratifications of the will without the consequent expected pleasure, disappointments of it without the consequent expected pain, are here particularly useful to us. And it is by this, amongst other means, that the human will is brought to a conformity with the divine, which is the only radical cure for all our evils and disappointments, and the only earnest and medium for obtaining everlasting happiness."

'By the above reasoning, which is I think conclusive, it evidently appears, that were the constant gratification of will possible, (which, in the present state of things, it certainly is not) it would only tend to make the being so gratified miserable. The constant gratification of self-will must necessarily exclude the exercise of all the grateful passions. Where success is certain, hope can have no existence; nor can joy be produced by attaining that which is considered as a right. Let hope and joy be excluded from the human mind, and where is happiness?' P. 156.

This reasoning is on the whole correct and satisfactory; yet perhaps it is not perfectly applicable to the subject. The minds of children are indeed eager in pursuit; but this eagerness is connected with mutability. Desires are violent; but disappointments are not grievous, because other objects wear an equally attractive hue. *Colligit et ponit temerè; mutatur in horas.* We speak now of children in general, not of the pampered minions of indulgence. A child may be led, but he cannot be drawn; and he should never be allowed to command. If a new object will not obliterate the eager wish for what cannot be granted, the consequence must be endured. The child will cry; he will promise 'to roar,' and will keep his word. The parents' head and heart may ache, but each will feel more pain if the infant succeed. When the child has once roared himself hoarse without success, he will not be inclined to repeat the experiment; and, if disregarded for his misconduct, will readily apologise for it. We have never found a more powerful argument than attention, or a stronger dissuasive than neglect. To say to a child of a generous disposition, 'No, sir! such conduct unfits you for my companion,' and to follow this idea by a studied inattention during the remainder of the day,

Digitized by Google

we have often found effectual, if no officious servant counteract the design by an opposite behaviour. Above all, we must repeat that the parent should never yield; for a single victory will render the child a tyrant.

Habitual gratification, as Miss Hamilton truly observes, will make him miserable. It renders even adults capricious and unhappy; and frequent irritation is the parent of every malevolent passion. The whole of this subject is well explained. We wish it had been detailed somewhat more comprehensively.

The tenth letter, on self-denial, should have followed this, and we shall in general mark our approbation of it. The eighth, which really follows, is not indeed inapposite. It is entitled 'an examination into the usual methods employed to counteract the effects of injudicious indulgence.' Schools, Miss Hamilton thinks, implant worse principles or passions than they eradicate. Our opinion is different. With all the inconveniences of schools, they are the only correctives of the errors of the nursery.

The ninth letter is 'on partiality, and the associations producing a contempt for the female character.' The following remarks on the former should be imprinted on the head and heart of every parent. Partiality is perhaps unavoidable. The error consists in suffering it to influence the conduct.

'The disposition to benevolence is sown and nourished in the grateful soil of family affection. Where children are educated upon sensible principles, so that their wills are not perpetually clashing with each other, mutual affection must naturally spring from sympathy in each other's joys, and the pleasure derived from each other's society. But this affection is too often nipped in the bud by the canker of parental partiality.

'Children are so far conscious of their *rights*, as to feel that they have an equal claim to the parent's tenderness and affection. Where this claim is not allowed, and capricious fondness singles out some particular objects on which to lavish its regards, it never fails to produce the worst consequences both on the favoured and neglected parties. In the former it engenders pride and arrogance, in the latter it brings forth indignation and hatred; and destroys the sense of justice in both. It too often happens that personal defects, or personal charms, occasion this unfortunate bias in a mother's mind; sometimes that briskness which is so frequently mistaken for genius; or that dulness which is confounded with stupidity, becomes an excuse for partiality or dislike; and sometimes no excuse is attempted but the sensible one, that "it is a feeling that cannot be helped!"

'Whatever may be the motive assigned for partiality to a favourite, or for dislike to an unfavoured child, the mother who indulges her feelings with regard to either may be assured she is guilty of a crime of no light dye. She, in the first place, breaks the bonds of family affection, and sows the seeds of discord among her children,

Digitized by Google

which, as they grow up, produce envy, jealousy, and a perpetual recurrence of strife. Their youth is thus made a scene of displacency and discontent; than which nothing can be more inimical to the feelings of benevolence.

'If the injury done to the rest of her offspring make a slight impression on the mother's heart, the injury done to the favourite by her ill-judged partiality is surely worthy her attention. Let the partial mother consider, that she is not only perverting the heart of her beloved darling by the introduction of all the passions connected with pride and arrogance, but, by rendering him an object of jealousy and envy, is begetting towards him the hatred and aversion of those to whom in after life he ought naturally to look for solace and support; that she may be the means of depriving his youth of the blessings of fraternal affection, and his old age of the consolations of fraternal sympathy.

'Nor is it the affection and good-will of his own family alone of which she robs him. No one can regard a spoiled child but with feelings of dislike. The faults which good-nature would overlook, the blemishes which compassion would regard with tenderness, become odious and revolting, when seen in the object of blind and doting partiality. Can a mother compensate by her endearments for thus depriving her child of the good-will of brothers, sisters, relations, and friends?' P. 218.

The prejudices respecting the different sexes lead the author into a very pleasing disquisition on the treatment of women in different ages and countries. The servile state of the sex among less civilised nations is contrasted with the dignity of mind derived from example, and the splendid actions of their ancestors in Rome; but under the Christian dispensation only are women made the companions, the equals, of man. No man of sense will hold a well-educated woman in contempt. She only merits it when aiming at accomplishments unsuited to her station, and at talents which nature had denied. We do not by this mean to enlist into the ridiculous band which allows women no talents. They possess in general an elegance, and often an elevation of sentiment, which renders them capable, in many instances, of instructing and directing their husbands; but they do not naturally possess that strength of judgement, that force of mind, competent to adapt them to the more important, the more abstracted, intellectual functions. We now speak in general; for we well know that, even in those points, many women excel multitudes of men. We are aware that strong examples might be adduced. To these, nevertheless, we think we could reply with success; and women of reason and good sense have uniformly admitted the distinction. Why may not each be allowed the pre-eminence in opposite and respective lines? Each sex has its peculiar qualifications and duties: in its peculiar offices each has equal merit. Miss Hamilton,

Digitized by Google

however, shows a deficiency of experience, when she thinks that the distinction of girls and boys is not early to be recognised in their amusements. Where many of each sex are brought up together, they in some measure assimilate in their inclinations and diversions; but yet they are different. It wants not the example of girls to give boys delicacy: it is often observable very early, and seems an inherent disposition, not easily eradicated. In one family we have uniformly traced its appearance from two years old.

The eleventh letter is 'on the use to be made of objects of sense in infant education.' It contains many judicious observations, which are not however very closely connected with the title. The twelfth is 'on associations inspiring the love of wealth.' On this subject it is not easy to speak in general; for much must depend on the temper of the child. If the object be only to convince him that splendor is not necessarily connected with goodness, or even intellectual pre-eminence, the attempt is laudable; but it is difficult to say how to regulate the infant mind, either in saving or spending. In general, we have said that avarice, a species of selfishness, is one of the most fatal diseases of the infant mind: it is however uncommon, and, in endeavouring to prevent it, we may inspire a thoughtless indifference to money, which may be equally injurious to happiness. Every thing of this kind must be relative.—In the thirteenth letter, some supposed or real objections are answered; but it is still difficult to draw the line. The influence of riches and honours, as a stimulus to industry, may be beneficial; yet, at this early period, the object is at too great a distance, and its value is too little known, to produce a powerful effect. We would tell a boy, placed under our care, that superior knowledge would make him a great man; but would always add, that it would most certainly make him a happy one; and we would keep riches out of his sight, except as, by proper use, the means of happiness. To a boy of an aspiring disposition, distinction is a stronger stimulus than wealth. The remarks 'on the love of glory, of praise, of dress and admiration,' are of inferior value. Miss Hamilton has not, in our opinion, seised the proper point of view:—indeed any observation of importance belongs to a riper age than that to which these letters in general relate.

The last letter is entitled 'a review of principles, family pride, self-importance, and children's books.' It furnishes no particular subject of remark. On the whole, these Letters will be found highly interesting and useful to the parent who wishes to discharge her duty. We have differed in some instances from the author's opinion, but have not found a single precept inconsistent with delicacy, decorum, or religion.

Digitized by Google

Every remark is entitled to much deference; and if every one may not be perfectly applicable to the subject, there is nothing but what reflects considerable credit on the head and heart of the fair writer.

ART. X.—*Life of Bonaparte, First Consul of France, from his Birth to the Peace of Luneville. To which is added, an Account of his remarkable Actions, Replies, Speeches, and Traits of Character; with Anecdotes of his different Campaigns. Translated from the French.* 8vo. 8*s. Boards.* Robinsons. 1802.

THIS publication might be entitled an *Eloge*, or Eulogy, on Bonaparte, rather than a Life of him; for though it contains a vast number of interesting facts, every thing is studiously concealed which might cast a shade on his character. In France, however, no other style of painting their hero would have satisfied the public; and indeed some excuse may be made for a writer who is describing a character surrounded by such a blaze of intrinsic greatness. He has introduced the principal anecdotes that have been recorded of the first consul's life: and memoirs, which would necessarily be interesting under any mode of compilation, by no means suffer in the hands of the biographer before us, who, with the graces of the French style, combines that peculiar species of narration which renders his countrymen in general as successful in the relation of anecdotes as they have lately been in the operations of war.

We know little of the early years of Bonaparte. He was born at Ajaccio, in Corsica, on the 15th of August, 1769, whence he was transplanted to the military school of Brienne, in Champagne. Here he is said to have discovered the germs of that fixed and determined character which, in contracted minds, is usually denominated sullenness or obstinacy, and magnanimity in those of an opposite cast. He studied the art of war with the greatest attention; to which he joined the science of mathematics; while the history of politics filled up his leisure hours. From Brienne he was transplanted to the military school at Paris; and we hear scarcely any thing of him till the siege of Toulon in 1793, at which time he was an officer (but we cannot learn of what rank) in a corps of artillery. His activity and good conduct recommended him here first to the notice of Barras, and he soon became a general of brigade. In this post we find him only full of plans and speculations, till the memorable 13th of Vendémiaire (4th of October), which first brought him on the great theatre of the public. On this day he was second in command under Barras; and, instead of simply narrating, the author confines himself to the vindication

Digitized by Google

of the part he acted upon the occasion. This is unworthy of a biographer, though hastening to the brilliant periods of his hero's life, who was soon afterward appointed to the command of the army in Italy. The magnitude of his character now began to be developed.

'He was at the head of an army inferior to that of the enemy, ill clothed, and wanting every thing: he had treacherous allies, and a people ill disposed towards the French to deal with; he had rocks to surmount that are almost inaccessible; and numerous rivers, great and small, to cross: but he met firmly these difficulties, and overcame them all.' P. 27.

From victory to victory, his marches were rapid; and every thing seemed to succeed exactly in the manner that he had planned it in his closet. His own genius alone led him on, and fired him to encounter superior troops, and all the boasted powers of wealth and rank,—in few words, every advantage, without which, inferior minds conceive that nothing is to be acquired. It is needless to say that those very advantages soon forsook the enemy, who bent, as it is said, to his superior fortune. We cannot avoid transcribing, however, a single trait, to show that the general, who, after a hard day's battle, continued in the midst of his fellow-soldiers, anxious to alleviate their toils, deserved the fortune which was constantly his companion.

'On the night ensuing the long and dreadful battle of Arcola, Bonaparte disguised himself in the dress of an inferior officer, and traversed the camp. In the course of his round he discovered a sentinel, leaning on the but-end of his musket, in a profound sleep. Bonaparte, taking the musket from under him, placed his head gently on the ground, and kept watch for two hours in his stead, at the end of which the regular guard came to relieve him. On awaking, the soldier was astonished at seeing a young officer doing duty for him; but when, looking more attentively, he recognised in this officer the commander-in-chief, his astonishment was converted into terror. "The general!—Bonaparte!" he exclaimed; "I am then undone!" Bonaparte, with the utmost gentleness, replied: "Not so, fellow-soldier: recover yourself: after so much fatigue, a brave man like you may be allowed for a while to sleep; but, in future, choose your time better." P. 68.

The first campaign, to the signature of the treaty of Leoben, is well narrated. The principal events pass in succession without too long a detail of military manœuvres—the technical resource of an inferior writer.

'At the signing of these preliminaries the emperor sent three of the principal nobility of his court as hostages. Bonaparte received them with every mark of distinction, invited them to dine with him, and at the dessert said to them, "Gentlemen, you are free: tell your

Digitized by Google

master, that if his imperial word require a pledge, you cannot serve as such; and if it require none, that you ought not." This is in the true spirit of the ancients.' P. 90.

Thus, a thousand years after its subjugation by Charlemagne, the conquest of Italy was again achieved by Bonaparte. At Paris he was received with the most lively demonstrations of public gratitude; whence he was sent plenipotentiary to the congress at Rastadt. His Egyptian plan now fully occupied his mind; and, leaving the inferior details of office, he escaped that assassination, which civilised Europe, with all her pretended horrors for the atrocities of the French revolution, never held in the detestation which so base and wicked an attempt deserved. The plan was entrusted wholly to his management; and Malta was taken before the British cabinet had the least knowledge or conception to what quarter of the earth the victorious general would bend his course. Egypt was an easy conquest. The Mamelucs resisted with bravery; but they were soon overpowered by superior skill and superior valour. While proper arrangements were formed for securing the tranquillity of Egypt, the general prepared himself for his Asiatic expedition, the object of which is not to the present moment sufficiently explained. His usual success attended him; till, baffled by the vigor and skill of the British arms, he was compelled to retire from St. Jean d'Acre; and his retreat was accompanied, we have reason to believe, with circumstances which do no honour to his character. Here a sad mist overspreads the eyes of our biographer: he casts a veil over English honour and English valour, and would endeavour to load our generous countrymen with the cruelty congenial to the Turkish character, and which it does not appear they had any means of preventing. He would make this expedition also successful. 'Bonaparte saw the end of his expedition fulfilled:'—when it should rather have been said: Bonaparte, baffled in all his schemes in Asia, made a precipitate retreat into Africa.

The conqueror of Egypt was now in a situation which called for a vigorous display of his character; and, had not success crowned the results of a great mind, his fame must have been lost in a determination to quit his army, and to restore peace to his distracted country. It is evident that fresh succours could never have arrived to him as long as we were masters of the seas; and the directory of France were too feeble to contest with us the superiority on what we have proudly denominated our own element. The general laid his plan with his usual prudence; and, taking with him only a few confidential friends, embarked on the 23d of August 1798, in a vessel prepared for the voyage, and on the first of October following landed at Ajaccio in Corsica. Here he was wind-bound for four days;

Digitized by Google

but on the 16th he reached France, and at two o'clock in the afternoon entered, in the midst of shouts of applause from all the people in the adjacent communes, the town of Fréjus. On the evening of the 17th he quitted Fréjus for Paris, where, till the 9th of November, he continued silently preparing the plan which was to place him at the head of France, and, in consequence, at the head of Europe.

The state of France at this epoch is well described by our biographer; and whatever may be thought of the general's mode of acquiring power, it is evident that the directory was incapable of retaining it, and the revolution was effected with scarcely any of those horrors which had, for the preceding ten years, disgraced the French character. We may from this period consider him as the sovereign of a great nation; and his first step proved him worthy to hold the reins of government. He found his country at war; he made, in the most dignified manner, overtures of peace to the king of England, which were unfortunately replied to in the style of a special pleader. The interior of the country was distracted by priests, fanatics, and banditti; but by active and decisive steps he restored order and tranquillity in this quarter. The Austrians threatened to invade France from both Germany and Italy: his regiments were filled up with eagerness; the army of the Rhine was committed to the care of a general second only to himself; and he descended from the Alps into Italy by a way hitherto deemed impassable; and the general of the enemy could scarcely believe the assertions of his troops, that they had been beaten by an army led on by the first consul. The fate of Italy was soon to be decided; the Austrian general, compelled to change his course, advanced to the celebrated plains of Marengo, where the sanguinary battle fought upon this spot destroyed all the hopes he entertained of resisting the French with success. The termination of that engagement gave Italy to the first consul. But it is an error to imagine, that, if the last decisive attack by the French had not obtained for them the victory, the Austrians could have rescued Italy from their grasp. The plans of Bonaparte were too well laid, and he was morally certain of his conquest a few days before he had passed the Alps.

The emperor could no longer resist; his feeble attempts to evade the ratification of the treaty were baffled by the resolution of the first consul; and when the three fortresses of the empire were surrendered, nothing remained but to put an end as soon as possible to the horrors of war. Bonaparte's return to Paris was felt with all the enthusiasm of the French character. His answers to the principal bodies that waited on him with their congratulations were pointed and dignified: he received every one with kindness and complacency; and, in exchanging the field

Digitized by Google

of battle for the cabinet, displayed talents equally calculated for either post, and was now transformed into as perfect a statesman as he was before a consummate general. That stratagems should be employed against his life in a French metropolis, is not at all surprising; and the most horrible mode of assassination was devised to effect the cowardly purpose of the wretched conspirators. Who were the principals in this infernal plan, is not yet ascertained; and our biographer concludes the life of his hero with his escape from their machinations. Bonaparte could not of course betray an emotion that looked like fear on such an occasion, which afforded him only another proof of the love, esteem, and confidence of the great body of his fellow-citizens.

These are the chief traits in the volume before us, which is enriched by a variety of speeches and proclamations of the first consul, whose life is one of the most interesting that history has recorded. As far as military achievements can confer honour on the human character, Bonaparte may vie with the greatest generals that have ever appeared. It yet remains to be seen, whether he possess the magnanimity of a Washington. He has performed his promise of giving peace to Europe; and from so extraordinary a man it is not too much to expect that he will restore liberty to his country.

ART. XI.—*Letters from the Rev. Mr. Job Orton, and the Rev. Sir James Stonhouse, Bart. M. D. to the Rev. Thomas Stedman, M. A. &c.* 2 *Vols.* 8*vo.* 9*s. Boards.* Longman *and* Rees.

THE characters of the writers of these Letters is well known to the religious public. If their talents were not of the first rate, they were eminently distinguished by sound judgement, piety, and a liberal disposition. They were both, moreover, men of great polemic reading, eminently attached to the duties of their profession, and both indefatigable labourers in their Master's vineyard, for the conversion of souls. One of them had been an unbeliever, a zealous unbeliever; yet, like another Paul, having seen the error of his way, he became more anxious to compensate, by the ardor of his future life, for his former transgressions. In these Letters their respective characters develope themselves in a very interesting manner: the smaller volume, however, containing Mr. Orton's Letters, we must observe, is by far the more valuable; and if those of Dr. Stonhouse had been reduced within the same compass, the reader would not have regretted the loss of many uninteresting remarks arising out of a kind of pious garrulity.

To the clergy these Letters may be peculiarly recommended, from their numerous exhortations to a strict performance of pa-

Digitized by Google

rochial duties, the variety of anecdotes relative to the clerical life, and many remarks on authors which may be useful to them in the completion of their libraries. The writers, as we have already observed, were both men of great piety—of a strictly evangelical disposition, we might indeed say, if that term had not been lately adopted to express a system of tenets and mode of conduct from which they were both equally averse. The sentiments of Mr. Orton may be seen from a very judicious letter of his on this subject.

'I am very glad to hear that you are come to a resolution to have nothing to do with Mr. **** in the way of correspondence or intimacy: and I hope you will extend your resolution to all men of that sort, be they ever so pious and zealous. Serious young men, struck with the appearances of piety and zeal, are not sufficiently cautious of those in whom they see them; enter into acquaintance and correspondence with them too soon and too closely, and thereby suffer many inconveniences. "Beware of men," is a good caution in itself, and it is our Master's too. My reason for this advice is plain.—You are not likely to do Mr. **** any good. There is no mending wrong heads, especially when they are influenced by what they think a zeal for God, and imagine that their good intentions will justify, and even sanctify, all their imprudence and irregularities. You never can make him see that he is acting wrong and imprudently. You may confute such men, but you can never convince them.—Another substantial reason why you should decline all correspondence with him is, that you will be likely to be a sufferer by him: not that I suppose he will corrupt you, or lead you into any of his irregularities; but these sort of divines will never be easy, except those who they think are pious will join in their measures and approve them. If you join in them, you hurt your own credit and usefulness, and the peace of your own mind; and your name and example will be considered and quoted as a sanction for all their irregularities. If you do not join in them, they will censure and misrepresent you, yea, and treat you worse than they would a mere formalist. I have seen many instances, and felt some of the effects of this kind of zeal, though it no way hurt me. Several preachers, and others of this stamp, with whom I had not the least acquaintance, and never saw till I came to this town, used to call upon me, supposing me, I imagine, according to their ideas, to be sound in the faith, and a well-wisher to their designs; but when they found I would not run all their lengths, and discouraged their proceedings, (especially their rash and uncharitable way of speaking and judging of others, particularly their censures of all the clergy who were not Calvinists, however pious, worthy, and useful), they began to think evil of me, and now, to my great satisfaction, I see none of them. I shall not forget the advice which a venerable old man of Northampton, with his point-collar-band, once gave me concerning such persons—"Neither bless them at all, nor curse them at all." Vol. i. p. 190.

Digitized by Google

His farther remarks on conversions deserve at this time particular attention.

'Indeed, I lay very little stress upon what some divines call *conversions*; I have seen so many instances of their coming to nothing, or that their converts have only been converted from the sins of men to the sins of devils, from drunkenness and debauchery to spiritual pride, bitterness, and uncharitableness; and this I cannot call a saving change. I see little alteration for the better in the conduct of many who have been said to be converted. I am cautious of calling any thing by that name, where there is not a regular consistent conduct following it. Hasty impressions, which some ministers are very ready to observe and admire, are often lost in a little time, and those who have been under them become worse than they were before. I have no idea of conversion as passing a certain line, and then getting into a saving state. Conversion is a work of time; and I see no right we have to say any are converted or become good, till one hath a longer season of trial, to observe whether they continue stedfast in the practice of righteousness, and act in every circumstance and relation, in the main, consistent with the demands of the Gospel. I wish you may have the pleasure to see many such converts.' Vol. i. p. 118.

Thus Mr. Orton could be zealous in the discharge of his duty; but he required something more in an acknowledged conversion to vital Christianity than a few transient emotions, occasioned by pulpit declamation or casual fits of seriousness. He expected the new convert to commence a steady examination of himself by the rules of the Gospel, to read that Gospel with attention, to study the whole of the divine life, to become a Christian from conviction; to evince that Christianity not by the use of affected gesticulation or phraseology, but by the fruits of the spirit operating an internal change in the heart, and purifying the mind from every worldly blemish. As a proof of his judgement, we shall select the account he gives of a book which, at its first appearance, was highly applauded by the chief characters in the church, though it was, in truth, undermining its doctrines.

'Mr. Robinson, the author of the Plea for the Divinity of Christ, hath not received a regular education, but is a man of a surprising genius, and vast application. He does not appear to me to understand the controversy about the Trinity; and has misapplied several texts, which I have taken the liberty of pointing out to him. He frequently contradicts himself, being in some parts of his performance a Sabellian, while in others he seems to favour the Athanasian doctrine. In reality, I take him to be a Sabellian, or else I do not understand him, I wish none would meddle with that controversy but those who understand it. I have read many treatises upon the subject, and some angry and uncharitable ones, whose authors did not understand it, but wrote without any clear ideas. I think Mr. Ro-

Digitized by Google

binson's book will be useful, to show the difficulty of the point, and to abate the confidence and censoriousness of many.' Vol. i. p. 250.

With this opinion we may contrast that of Dr. Stonhouse in the next volume.

'Robinson is a keen, sensible man, and a spirited writer. His Defence of the Doctrine of the Trinity is one of the best books we have on the subject. But I am grieved to find that he is since embarked with Priestley. What infinite mischief to Christianity has that one man done!' Vol. ii. p. 253.

In these two divines we have an instance of the common and uncommon mode of judging. Orton understood the nature of the controversy; he knew the difficulties attending it; he distinguished accurately between the various modifications which, in different ages of the church, have been introduced in the doctrine of the Trinity. He saw, through Robinson's work, that it was deficient in precision, that the writer was evidently not orthodox, that, in departing from orthodoxy, he had not formed in his own mind any clear conception of the character of Christ as the son of God. Stonhouse, on the contrary, saw in him only some keen and spirited attacks on those who defended the strict unity of God as incapable of being divided among persons; and he conceived him therefore to be a defender of the Trinity. We might perhaps add, that the doctor himself seems to have formed as incomplete a notion on this subject as the advocate he commends in this controversy. Orton would not have been surprised at seeing Robinson united with Priestley; but he probably would have told his friend Stonhouse, that 'the defence of the doctrines of the Trinity' was far more likely to create disbelievers than all the works that Priestley had dispersed over the world.

Dr. Stonhouse gives us another instance of his inaccuracy.

'Since I have been here, I have read the two first volumes of Robertson's History of America. Very excellent! He is to publish two more volumes, in order to bring it down to the present times. I see plainly he will side with the Americans against the ministry. Surely the dissenters are very highly to blame thus to oppose government.' Vol. ii. p. 118.

The good doctor forgets that the term *dissenter* is not applicable to a member of the church of Scotland, which is as decisively established by the laws of the land in the north as the church of England in the southern part of the island. His remark on franks is in a better style.

'I received your letter in sir P. Hales's frank, which I sent you. But never send a *single* letter in a frank: that is like *walking in boots*; which whoever does, *walks in effect* in *shoes* of a guinea or five-and-twenty shillings a pair.' Vol. ii. p. 146.

Digitized by Google

The advice with which he concludes another letter is equally good.

'Borrow, if you possibly can, Doddington's Diary, (afterwards lord Melcombe) and read it. 'Twill open your mind much, as it has done mine, in regard to all the deceit, intrigues, baseness, irreligion, and misery of those whom we falsely call great; and confirm the biblical account of the fall of man and the corruption of human nature.' Vol. ii. p. 350.

Where the two writers concur in recommending a work, a clergyman will seldom be misled in following their recommendation; but if he purchase every thing the doctor praises, he will find a want of room for those authors who deserve his attention in a greater degree. The first volume of this work he cannot turn over too often; the second may occasionally amuse a leisure hour.

ART. XII.—*An Essay on the Way to restore and perpetuate Peace, good Order, and Prosperity, to the Nations. By Bryce Johnston, D.D.* 8vo. 4s. *Boards.* Ogle. 1801.

THE way recommended by this writer is the chief, if not the only one, by which the object in question, at all times so important to nations, and now from revolutionary events made more particularly desirable, can be obtained. A serious return of man, in all ranks, to the duties of religion would assuredly both restore and secure peace to Europe. Infidelity and superstition are its prime enemies: the latter had ruled with an iron sway for ages over the minds of mankind; and the vices engendered by the former were the means adopted by the Supreme Being to drive the latter from its post. The present essay is divided into four parts. In the first the nature of religion is explained; the second treats on civil society and civil government; the third points out the influence of religion on society; and the last expatiates on its necessity, in the present state of Europe, to restore peace and good order.

In every part great earnestness, with some degree of prolixity, prevails. The writer does not mean by religion the mere form of any particular church, but that vital principle which individuals in every church should possess: he is less anxious about the form than the spirit. He can see the imperfections of both churches and governments, and points out with a firm hand the necessity of attending in either to the changes produced in the minds of men by the revolution of ages, and by that constant communication with each other, which has been introduced by the press, as well as by other improvements of civilised life.

Digitized by Google

'Religion, the devotion of the heart to that God who is greater than the heart, and knoweth all things, must be a free-will offering. God accepts of the will for the deed, when the deed is not in our power; but he will not accept of the deed for the will. His command and his promise to every religious person is, "My son, give me thine heart." "I will put my law within them, I will write it on their heart; I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people, a *willing people* in a day of my power—a peculiar people, zealous of good works." Hence religion never should be enforced by human penalties, nor compelled by external force; because, though these, when applied to weak or wicked persons, may make hypocrites, they never can make religious persons, by enlightening the understanding, attracting the affections, convincing the judgement, and determining the will. Religion should be taught by proper addresses to the understanding and the heart; by all the means of moral suasion; especially by those means of reading, of preaching, of hearing the word of God, of prayer to God, and of the sacraments of the New Testament, which are ordained of God and recorded in the sacred scriptures. Hence no external profession, and no external observances, are religion, or any part of it, though enjoined by the Almighty, unless they flow from, and are regulated by, a renewed and sanctified heart.' P. 42.

With this impression of real religion on his mind, he surveys its various modes with a different eye from that of a sectary.

'But as God hath not said in his word, that the church of England, that the church of Scotland, that any one of the dissenters from either, of whatever denomination they are, is the only true church of Christ, nor hath specified in his word all the peculiar marks by which they are in fact distinguished from each other, he dare not fix on any one of them exclusively as the only church of Christ on earth. The more truly religious any man is, he is the less under the domination of bigotry; and the more superstitious he is, he is the greater bigot. Every candid and judicious person, acquainted with the history of the church and of mankind, must have uniformly observed that the bigotry of particular churches and of particular men hath always been in proportion to the number of doctrines, and especially of external observances of mere human institution in these churches, or which make up the superstition of these men. I use the term superstition, because such doctrines and such observances being above, or different from, the law of God, are strictly superstition (*super statutum*) and not religion.' P. 121.

As forms of religious worship cannot bias his mind, the names appropriated to forms of government do not carry him away from the essential characters of government in general.

'Governments are either free or despotic. Despotism is not confined to the tyranny of one person, as superficial thinkers imagine, or as some designing men attempt to persuade the world. That government is free, in which the governors rule by equitable, just, previously fixed, and public laws; whether these governors be many

Digitized by Google

(the people), few (the noble), or one (the monarch). And that government is despotic in which the governors rule by their own arbitrary will, without equitable, fixed, and public law; whether these governors be many, few, or one. If one tyrant is grievous, it will not diminish, but greatly increase the oppression, that there are an hundred tyrants. The Roman republic swayed a most despotic sceptre over the distant and extensive provinces of that huge empire. Whenever the territory of a republic becomes very extensive, all the parts of it which are distant from the seat of government must feel the iron hand of despotism.' P. 165.

The true cause of revolutions in any government, as explained by this writer, leads to a mode of prevention which, however obvious and adequate, is not likely to be resorted to.

'Such great and awful events, attended and followed with such important consequences, cannot take place under the administration of divine Providence without a sufficient cause. The real and primary cause of revolutions is always the moral depravity and perversion of the men who make up the nation. That depravity, in some instances, may be more prevalent in that part of the nation which consists of the rulers; in others in that part which consists of the great body of the people; and most frequently nearly equally in both. Moral depravity always weakens the real bounds of society. The weaker these become, they are in the greater danger of breaking.' P. 245.

Hence—

'All men, whether they are high or low, rich or poor, magistrates or subjects, who corrupt the principle, and weaken the power of religion in themselves and in others, are the real exciters of revolutions. They sow the seeds of revolutions, and cultivate them every day by their example. In this way, many of those persons who speak against and dread revolutions are the most active hands in bringing them on. Their aversion to revolutions will neither prevent nor retard them, when the increasing perversion of religion in them and in others renders society unhappy and ungovernable. As well might they expect that their aversion to misery would render them happy; while their impiety and wickedness make them feel that there is no peace to the wicked, 'for his heart is like the troubled sea which cannot rest.' P. 252.

The strange fears which men pretending to religion in this country have endeavoured to propagate on the danger to religion, from the introduction of French principles, are properly repelled by this judicious writer. He sees the mischief of the latter in its fullest extent; but his views are too much enlarged by the study of the Scriptures to fall into so weak and idle a belief.

'A spirit subversive of superstition is already excited, and hath made great progress among the kingdoms of Europe. This spirit

Digitized by Google

will accomplish the destruction of superstition: but some are afraid that it will banish all religion from the world. Though it may be the intention of infidel men to do this, who have been so active in raising this spirit; and though those who know no other religion than superstition may be afraid of this; yet every person who knows what real religion is will not be distressed with such fears. He knows that that divine religion which is a work of God cannot be overthrown by men or devils; and that when the commandments of men, taught as doctrines of God, are removed out of the way, mankind will more clearly see, more strongly feel, and more cheerfully obey that religion, which, in its few and simple ordinances, as well as its true doctrines and right precepts, is the truth, and enacted by the authority of God.

'Infidelity, the offspring of superstition, having, with the hands of an unnatural parricide, destroyed its parent, shall, like many individual infidels, fall by suicide.' P. 298.

From these extracts our readers will judge of the author's style and general mode of sentiment. He evidently writes with the purest intentions. His quotations, both from the Scripture and Montesquieu, are rather too copious; but the matter introduced is generally so valuable, that we cannot pass a very severe censure upon the wish he hereby cordially evinces to compel the reader to a perusal of the passages quoted, rather than, by merely referring to them in the margin, to leave it to chance whether he will peruse them or not. We seriously recommend this work to be put into the hands of those who may have been led astray by the political notions either of a Burke or a Paine, or the infidel maxims of other modern philosophers.

ART. XIII.—*The Poetical Works of the late Thomas Little, Esq.* 8*vo.* 7*s. Boards.* Carpenter. 1801.

THIS volume, which is published as the posthumous work of a very young man, we have heard attributed to a living author. It is not the business of a reviewer to publish a writer's name, if the writer himself have chosen to withhold it: it would be more particularly improper in the present instance, from the general tendency of these poems, and the consciousness thereof which is implied in the preface.

'Mr. Little died in his one-and-twentieth year; and most of these poems were written at so early a period, that their errors may claim some indulgence from the critic: their author, as unambitious as indolent, scarce ever looked beyond the moment of composition: he wrote as he pleased, careless whether he pleased as he wrote. It may likewise be remembered that they were all the productions of an age when the passions very often give a colouring too warm to the imagination; and this may palliate, if it cannot excuse, that air

Digitized by Google

of levity which pervades so many of them. The "aurea legge, s'ei piace, ei lice," he too much pursued, and too much inculcates. Few can regret this more sincerely than myself; and if my friend had lived, the judgement of riper years would have chastened his mind, and tempered the luxuriance of his fancy.' P. iv.

A few only of the pieces contained in this little volume are serious: the general subject is love—or what was *called* love in the days of Charles the Second; more decent indeed in its expression, but in its feeling and character the same. They abound in wit, and discover a power of language and a simplicity which have rarely been equaled. The following are of the most playful kind.

'SONG.

'Why, the world are all thinking about it,
And as for myself, I can swear,
If I fancied that heav'n were without it,
I'd scarce feel a wish to go there.

'If Mahomet would but receive me,
And Paradise be as he paints,
I'm greatly afraid, God forgive me!
I'd worship the eyes of his saints.

'But why should I think of a trip
To the prophet's seraglio above,
When Phillida gives me her lip,
As my own little heaven of love?

'Oh! Phyllis, that kiss may be sweeter
Than ever by mortal was given;
But your lip, love, is only St. Peter,
And keeps but the key to your heaven!' P. 23.

'*To the large and beautiful Miss* ——. *In Allusion to some Partnership in a Lottery Share.*

'IMPROMPTU.

'—— Ego pars —— VIRGIL.

'In wedlock a species of lottery lies,
Where in blanks and in prizes we deal;
But how comes it that you, such *a capital prize*,
Should so long have *remain'd in the wheel?*

'If ever, by Fortune's indulgent decree,
To me such a ticket should roll,
A *sixteenth*, heaven knows! were sufficient for me,
For what could I do with the *whole?*' P. 7.

Digitized by Google

'*To Mrs.* ——.

'—— amore
In canuti pensier si disconvene. GUARINI.

'Yes, I think I once heard of an amorous youth
Who was caught in his grandmother's bed;
But I own I had ne'er such a liquorish tooth
As to wish to be there in his stead.

'Tis for you, my dear madam, such conquests to make,
Antiquarians may value you high,
But, I swear, I can't love for antiquity's sake,
Such a poor virtuoso am I.

'I have seen many ruins all gilded with care,
But the cracks were still plain to the eye;
And I ne'er felt a passion to venture in there,
But turn'd up my nose, and pass'd by!

'I perhaps might have sigh'd in your magical chain,
When your lip had more freshness to deck it;
But I'd hate even Dian herself *in the wane*,
She might then *go to hell for a Hecate!*

'No, no! when my heart 's in these amorous faints,
Which is seldom, thank heaven! the case;
For by reading the *Fathers* and *Lives of the Saints*,
I keep up a stock of good grace.

'But then 'tis the creature, luxuriant and fresh,
That my passion with ecstacy owns;
For indeed, my dear madam, though fond of the flesh,
I never was partial to *bones!*' P. 32.

'SONG.

'Away with this pouting and sadness,
Sweet girl! will you never give o'er?
I love you, by heaven! to madness,
And what can I swear to you more?
Believe not the old women's fable,
That oaths are as short as a kiss;
I'll love you as long as I'm able,
And swear for no longer than this.

'Then waste not the time with professions,
For not to be blest when we can
Is one of the darkest transgressions
That happen 'twixt woman and man.
Pretty moralist! why thus beginning
My innocent warmth to reprove?
Heav'n knows that I never lov'd *sinning*—
Except little sinnings in love!

Digitized by Google

'If swearing, however, will do it,
Come, bring me the calendar, pray—
I vow, by that lip, I'll go through it,
And not miss a saint on my way.
The angels shall help me to wheedle,
I'll swear upon every one
That e'er danc'd on the point of a needle,
Or rode on a beam of the sun!

'Oh! why should Platonic control, love,
Enchain an emotion so free?
Your soul, though a very sweet soul, love,
Will ne'er be sufficient for me.
If you think, by this coldness and scorning,
To seem more angelic and bright,
Be an angel, my love, in the morning,
But, oh! *be a woman to-night!*' P. 39.

On such poems there can be little to remark: every reader will perceive their merit. The following is more serious in its levity.

'*To* ——.

'With all my soul, then, let us part,
Since both are anxious to be free;
And I will send you home your heart,
If you will send back mine to me.

'We've had some happy hours together,
But joy must often change its wing;
And spring would be but gloomy weather,
If we had nothing else but spring.

'Tis not that I expect to find
A more devoted, fond, and true one,
With rosier cheek or sweeter mind—
Enough for me that she's a new one.

'Thus let us leave the bower of love,
Where we have loiter'd long in bliss;
And you may down *that* path-way rove,
While I shall take my way through *this*.

'Our hearts have suffer'd little harm
In this short fever of desire;
You have not lost a single charm,
Nor I one spark of feeling fire.

'My kisses have not stain'd the rose
Which nature hung upon your lip,
And still your sigh with nectar flows
For many a raptur'd soul to sip.

Digitized by Google

'Farewell! and when some other fair
Shall call your wanderer to her arms,
'Twill be my luxury to compare
Her spells with your remember'd charms.

"This cheek," I'll say, "is not so bright
As one that us'd to meet my kiss;
This eye has not such liquid light
As one that us'd to talk of bliss!"

'Farewell! and when some future lover
Shall claim the heart which I resign,
And in exulting joys discover
All the charms that once were mine;

'I think I should be sweetly blest,
If, in a soft, imperfect sigh,
You'd say, while to his bosom press'd,
He loves not half so well as I!' P. 99.

In his preface the author has criticised the Latin amatory poets with much taste.

'Mr. Little gave much of his time to the study of the amatory writers. If ever he expected to find in the ancients that delicacy of sentiment and variety of fancy which are so necessary to refine and animate the poetry of love, he was much disappointed. I know not any one of them who can be regarded as a model in that style; Ovid made love like a rake, and Propertius like a schoolmaster. The mythological allusions of the latter are called erudition by his commentators; but such ostentatious display, upon a subject so simple as love, would be now esteemed vague and puerile, and was, even in his own times, pedantic. It is astonishing that so many critics have preferred him to the pathetic Tibullus; but I believe the defects which a common reader condemns have been looked upon rather as beauties by those erudite men, the commentators, who find a field for their ingenuity and research in his Grecian learning and quaint obscurities.

'Tibullus abounds with touches of fine and natural feeling. The idea of his unexpected return to Delia, "Tunc veniam subito," &c. is imagined with all the delicate ardor of a lover; and the sentiment of "nec te posse carere velim," however colloquial the expression may have been, is natural, and from the heart. But, in my opinion, the poet of Verona possessed more genuine feeling than any of them. His life was, I believe, unfortunate; his associates were wild and abandoned; and the warmth of his nature took too much advantage of the latitude which the morals of those times so criminally allowed to the passions. All this depraved his imagination, and made it the slave of his senses; but still a native sensibility is often very warmly perceptible; and when he touches on pathos, he reaches the heart immediately. They who have felt the sweets of return to a home from which they have long been absent, will confess the beauty of those simple unaffected lines:

Digitized by Google

" O quid solutis est beatius curis!
Cum mens onus reponit, ac peregrino
Labore fessi venimus Larem ad nostrum
Desideratoque acquiescimus lecto." CARM. XXXII.

' His sorrows on the death of his brother are the very tears of poesy; and when he complains of the ingratitude of mankind, even the inexperienced cannot but sympathise with him. I wish I were a poet; I should endeavour to catch, by translation, the spirit of those beauties which I admire so warmly. It seems to have been peculiarly the fate of Catullus, that the better and more valuable part of his poetry has not reached us; for there is confessedly nothing in his extant works to authorise the epithet " doctus," so universally bestowed upon him by the ancients. If time had suffered the rest to escape, we perhaps should have found amongst them some more purely amatory; but, of those we possess, can there be a sweeter specimen of warm, yet chastened description, than his loves of Acme and Septimius? and the few little songs of dalliance to Lesbia are distinguished by such an exquisite playfulness, that they have always been assumed as models by the most elegant modern Latinists. Still, I must confess, in the midst of these beauties,

" medio de fonte leporum
Surgit amari aliquid, quod in ipsis floribus angat."

' It has often been remarked that the ancients knew nothing of gallantry; and we are told there was too much sincerity in their love to allow them to trifle with the semblance of passion. But I cannot perceive that they were any thing more constant than the moderns; they felt all the same dissipation of the heart, though they knew not those seductive graces by which gallantry almost teaches it to be amiable. Wotton, the learned advocate for the moderns, deserts them in considering this point of comparison, and praises the ancients for their ignorance of such a refinement; but he seems to have collected his notions of gallantry from the insipid *fadeurs* of the French romances, which are very unlike the sentimental levity, the " grata protervitas," of a Rochester or a Sedley.' P. V.

The extracts that we have given abundantly prove the genius of the author. Why will he degrade himself by thus miserably misapplying it? The age in which we live has imposed upon him the necessity of employing decent language; but few ages have ever been disgraced by a volume more corrupt in its whole spirit and tendency. We have not been avaricious in its praise; but this book is mischievous in proportion to its merit. The Monk had its spots;—this is leprous all over.

Digitized by Google

ART. XIV.—THE TITLE-PAGE REVIEWED.

AFTER a formal repetition, under these words, of his former title-page, and, on its back, of his letter and postscript, the tract before us proceeds to display

'THE ANSWER
OF
A. MONTUCCI, LL.D.
TO THE
CONDUCTORS OF THE CRITICAL REVIEW AND MONTHLY MAGAZINE,
Concerning their Review of a
TITLE-PAGE AND PREFATORY LETTER,
ACCOMPANYING PROPOSALS FOR
A TREATISE ON THE CHINESE LANGUAGE.

"Periculosæ plenum opus alea
"Tractas, et incedis per ignes
"Suppositos cineri doloso." HOR.

'To be had GRATIS of Messrs. Cadell and Davies, Strand.'

NOTWITHSTANDING the intimation thrown out in this motto, of our having engaged in a perilous task, when we ventured on the grounds which this writer had taken, and were treading upon fire under treacherous embers, we return to the subject undismayed.

DOCTOR Montucci—since *Doctor* he will have it—sets out with stating his embarrassment, whether to expostulate with or thank us for our early commentary on his Title-page, proposals, and letter. If thanks were supposed to be our due, we here fully disclaim them; for they all would have gone in silence to their own place, but for the note subjoined to the last; and of this we before apprised him. As to what he alleges on the subject, in the following paragraph, we have no objection. 'The futility,' says he, 'of the arguments of the Critical Review, grounded on abstracts from Dr. Montucci's Prefatory Letter to his Proposals, will be manifest to any one who has read the whole of that letter; and those who would give credit to arguments grounded upon quotations, without consulting the original, are not worth the notice of their opponent.'—We have no objection to abide by the doctor's appeal, and refer therefore to our Review for the month of *July*.

Dr. Montucci 'readily confesses, that he was rather severe upon the Critical Reviewers in his prefatory letter'—and why? in revenge for their declining to comply with his very modest request, *only* to delay their review of Dr. *Hager*'s work, till he

Digitized by Google

himself should have published, printed, and written, his meditated strictures upon it. With similar modesty the same request was made to THE MONTHLY REVIEWERS, and treated by them too as it deserved. But, *the doctor was authorised to make these requests*, and for the reasons that follow:—'For who could possibly deny that it is the duty of all reviewers rather to forbear reviewing a work for ever, than to do it without any archetypal criterion to go by?' But did Dr. Montucci, till now, ever hint, that he meant to supply us with such a criterion, or that his promised work would contain it? Our brothers of the *Monthly*, as well as ourselves, would, no doubt, have been grateful for so precious a favour. *An* ARCHETYPAL *criterion!*—The idea of it alone induces us to ask, if ever so much vanity and ignorance were united?—*vanity* in presuming to set up an archetypal standard for the guidance of the public judgement, and *ignorance* in using words without knowing their meaning!

Such a criterion, however, the doctor hath actually furnished, if he may vouch for himself, in this very *Answer*; or, if not, he 'will do it in his work in the press.' What he may *will* to do is one thing; what he *has* done is another: and experience forbids us to expect that a frog can ever equal an ox.

But what does he deem an archetypal criterion?—Pretending to be but a *Chinese Transcriber*, and founding his merits on this sole pretence, has he brought forward a single archetypal character of the 80,000, or more, that the language contains? or, of all that his '*invaluable treasures*' comprise, will he venture to assert a single character of them to be such? Were our knowledge of the Chinese as little as the doctor pleases, or even as his own, the ignorance, blunders, and presumption of this *Answer* would afford endless topics for remark, without committing our credit. But to the test—This renowned doctor, as an excuse for his censure on our having borrowed the Chinese types of Dr. Hager's book to give specimens from it, *now* says, 'he never meant to consider it as improper; but only blamed us for having introduced the *incorrect ones*, and accompanied this show with incorrect observations. If the doctor said *borrowed*, it was to imply that our skill as *Chinese Reviewers* was inferior even to Dr. Hager as a Chinese author; that we would not have been able to execute any Chinese characters at all if we had not borrowed them.' Dr. Hager, forsooth, a *Chinese* author! and we *Chinese* reviewers!—Be our skill in *transcribing* Chinese characters, or the want of it, what it may, before the doctor undertook to pronounce so boldly on the subject, he ought to have had some knowledge; but as he certainly has none, we leave to him all the credit that an unfounded assertion can merit; adding that, till his *archetypal criterion* be divulged, assertions of this kind serve only to disgrace their au-

Digitized by Google

thor. We, it seems, introduced *ten incorrect ones* out of the *thirty* Dr. Hager had used! But where is the proof?—not the slightest is offered, nor can any such proof be produced. This assertion Dr. Hager hath answered, in *one instance*, to Dr. Montucci's utter confusion; and when Dr. Montucci shall specify more, the like answers will be ready.

Dr. Montucci (p. 4) observes:—'When we once conceive an adequate idea of the admirable structure, mechanism, and energy of the Chinese hieroglyphics, the sublimity of the invention has so great a power on our mind, that we regard it as descended directly from heaven; and nothing is seen, in the extensive field of philology, that can bear the faintest comparison in point of merit to the Chinese language and writings.'—What heroics! We should hardly have imagined that any one, not a stranger to his *Christ-cross row*, could have uttered such bombastic nonsense; nor could we have believed any one so uninformed as not to know that the Chinese themselves admit their own mode of writing to be infinitely inferior to the *alphabetic*. Upon this conviction it is that the Japanese (who call the *written* language of the Chinese the language of *confusion*), as well as the inhabitants of *Tunking*, *Corea*, *Lienkieu*, and other nations bordering on China, have adopted alphabetic characters. Yet, after all this, Dr. Montucci thus closes his blast:—'The Chinese is the only branch of learning, the authors of which [*branch* of learning!] are either *accurate and enthusiasts*, [admirably coupled!] or, *inaccurate and inanimate*.' Most exquisite decision! 'A very Daniel come to judgement!'—To which of these classes our doctor belongs, what immediately follows will determine.—'Dr. Montucci is so far initiated in that language, *that he would* READILY FORFEIT *his own* EXISTENCE to see the study of it promoted in Europe!'—Proceed great days! A martyr! and in such a cause too, to court annihilation!

In the same page (4) Dr. Montucci observes, 'there are three points that prove the incompetency of the Critical Reviewers to Chinese criticism, and these he will set in the strongest light before his readers.' The first of them is, that the Reviewers 'have even stripped him of a title, which cost him as much study and money as Dr. Hager's did; and all this certainly is ingenious, and might have turned to their advantage.' What ingenuity there may be in taking from another his title, or how the omitting to give it amounted to privation, or the taking it from the doctor would turn to our advantage, is left for himself to explain. Had the title in question been a *Chinese degree*, there might be something like sense in the charge; but as to the addition of *Doctor of Laws*, the pretence is ridiculous in the extreme. Since, however, the signior affects a bell to his cap,

Digitized by Google

in Folly's name let him wear it. Nevertheless, as to the *stripping* him of this honour, we conceived it to be an exploit like that in *Prince Arthur*, where the vest a *naked* Pict had on was actually *taken away* from him. What money Dr. Hager's doctorate of divinity might have cost him, we know not, nor what study to obtain it; but till Antonio Montucci, LL.D. shall produce testimonies, of disputations as well maintained, and exercises as well written as those by Joseph Hager are known to have been, he will indulge us in withholding our assent, as we know his knack at assertions. *Soi-disant* doctors are far from rare. Quacks swarm in every profession; and the qualities of their nostrums generally show the validity of the titles under which they are vended. This at least is our criterion. Perhaps literary quacks were never more common; and we cannot persuade ourselves there is one the less for admitting the signior to be what he claims. The doctorate of law in Italy is conferred on young students as almost an affair of course, and we never have known a real scholar from that country who, for that very reason, has not dropped it in this. In respect to the title of Chinese Transcriber, which our be-doctored mandarin had stuck on his other dear-bought honour, this he admits 'we have very liberally bestowed upon him;' but, from an over-eagerness to malign us, he incautiously confesses that his claim to it is spurious; for, speaking of us, he directly says,—'Had they known what *writing Chinese* is, they would have been very far from allowing him the merit of this title.' But, be our guilt what it will, as to the honours in question, how doth it establish the doctor's first point, or prove the incompetency of the Critical Reviewers to Chinese criticism? Nevertheless, what he hath advanced on this head he pronounces to be a 'setting before his readers, in the strongest light, the proof of his assertion.' That we, however, were not *wholly* incompetent, some perhaps have inferred from the PLAGIARISMS we already had fixed on this doctor. We say *fixed*; yet this is what he urges as the *second point* in proof of our incompetency, and an example 'in which *we seem* not only deficient as Chinese Reviewers, but as Reviewers in general; for' (adds he) 'they certainly could not consider it as a PLAGIARISM, while they did not give the author time to quote his authorities.'—Not time, Dr. Montucci! Did we purloin your papers, and print them? Were not your title and proposals both printed, and, by *yourself*, suspended at every booksellers' in London? You had time to transcribe, get engraved and printed, the characters; though not to say whence *you* took them! But as to your Latin motto, the case was different: time there was allowed to add the citation; and thus, by your application of his words, was Fourmont made the author of a libel which merited the critique of lord Kenyon. What an

Digitized by Google

execrable subterfuge to skulk under, and what an insult on all that is decent!

The third proof of 'our incompetency to Chinese criticism' is thus expressed:—'Lastly, the Reviewers insinuate that all the Chinese characters introduced by Dr. Montucci's Title-page cannot be of any manner of use to his intended work; and in this they prove that they have not perceived the different styles above alluded to.' This the doctor confidently asserts from an inference of his own: 'for' (adds he) 'if they had, they would have immediately seen the utility that may possibly be derived from them.' In the first place, we reply that this charge of the doctor is the opposite to truth; and therefore all that is built on it must fall of itself. Secondly, were it true, the conclusion drawn from it is an imaginary inference, and without premisses to warrant it. Thirdly, the reason he assigns for having drawn the conclusion is so pregnant with absurdity, that nothing of the kind can exceed it. The Critical Reviewers are *proved* incompetent to Chinese criticism, 'because they have not immediately seen the utility that *may possibly* be derived from the different characters in the doctor's title-page!'—And who told the doctor what we saw, or did not see? Whatever utility these characters might suggest, or to whatever use he meaned to apply them, it is certain that himself had pointed out none; since he here, and *for the first time*, says, 'Dr. Montucci is well aware that *to disclose* NOW *the use he* INTENDS *to make of them is rather impolitic*;' assigning for the reason, 'that it will give Dr. Hager an opportunity of taking several hints to improve his work with an Appendix.' Such are the proofs of this mighty logician! and thus 'hath he set *in the strongest light* before his readers, our 'incompetency to Chinese criticism,' and 'as Reviewers in general.'

Next follows 'the anticipated *Elucidation*, to prove the intended utility of the Chinese specimens in Dr. Montucci's Title-page.' The doctor's first explanation concerns the characters *at the bottom*, a sort Dr. Hager passed over with simply noticing them, as being, in themselves, foreign to his subject; which was, 'An Explanation of the *Elementary Characters* of the Chinese, with an Analysis of their *ancient Symbols* and *Hieroglyphics*.' The characters adduced by Dr. Montucci being of the VULGAR KIND, and of no authority, he selected the specimen, as he tells us, to give an idea of their form, and spare his readers the trouble of consulting *The Philosophical Transactions*, which, however, he adds, '*he* INTENDED *to quote*.' Why he did not, he hath told you before; viz. *that* WE *did not give him* TIME. These characters, he informs us, 'were called VERY PROPERLY by Dr. Hager's *French pronunciation* (as if Dr. Hager were a *Frenchman!*) *tsao-tsu*; and the same pronunciation is accordingly adopted by

Digitized by Google

Dr. Montucci (see p. 6), though Amiot repeatedly styled them *tsao tsée*.

'The row of characters at the *top* of Dr. Montucci's Title-page (and these, too, no time was allowed him to quote) is' (he tells us) 'another specimen highly interesting for the history of Chinese literature, as invented at an epoch very fatal to Chinese learning and philology.' Now, in the name of common sense, we ask, since the doctor authorises the assertion that neither the characters at the bottom nor top of his page had any concern with the subject—'his studies being merely confined to that most modern and *universal* style of characters called *Him-wu*, which is generally adopted in *dictionaries* and MODERN PRINTED *books of China*'—for what possible end could he have displayed them on his title, but the ridiculous purpose of pedantic parade? or with what consistency censure Dr. Hager for introducing in his work what was not essential to his subject?

Of the perpendicular columns on either side the title, and which before this publication we explained, Dr. Montucci now informs us, that *that* on the left is from the writing of *Paul-Ko*, one of lord Macartney's interpreters; and that the other is a repetition of it by the doctor himself in such characters 'as are found in the *printed form* in most books, and chiefly in the Chinese printed dictionaries.' It is obvious here to ask, how it happened that, instead of exhibiting this counterpart according to the forms of his *archetypal criterion*, the doctor had recourse to characters picked out at random from the printed forms in books that fell in his way? What would be thought of a person with us, who, to show his skill in calligraphy, should produce a sentence, the characters of which were copied from letters of different founderies, without reference to any fixed principles of symmetry between them? Dr. Montucci wishes we had declared which of these two columns we deemed *a miserable copy* of the other! To any one not blind with self-conceit this never could, we think, be a question. The strokes of *Paul-Ko*, even in wood, are easy and flowing, whilst those of the doctor are stunted and deformed. We give him full credit for their being 'all of his own execution, without the assistance of *transparent paper or lead pencil*,' and are convinced, on that account, they are so much the worse. The very means he thus triumphantly scouts are those only by which faithful fac-similes are made, and therefore those to which artists the most expert have always recourse. But, were the contrary the truth, what has *transcribing* the characters of a language to do with skill in it? or by what argument will it appear that a knack at the one implies a mastery of the other? These are questions, which this transcriber may be puzzled to solve.

The doctor goes on to speak of the *motto*. With his having adopted it we did not find fault, but with the giving it as if

Digitized by Google

written in Chinese by himself. The Latin translation had caught him its meaning, and, turned into English, was strained to his purpose. In AMIOT's note it is thus expressed: CHOU POU TSIN YEN POU TSIN Y: *Libri non exhauriunt verba, verba non exhauriunt ideas.* The words which introduce his quotation are these: '*Je sais que le suffrage des vrais savans et des gens de bien les en dédommage; mais un missionnaire doit tojours être inconsolable de se voir cité dans des ouvrages de ténèbres et mensonges.*' LETTRE SUR LES CARACTERES CHINOIS, p. 46.—There are two circumstances of disguise attending this motto, which, taken together, deserve to be noticed. One is, that Dr. Montucci hath changed the terms that signify the sounds to *Xŭ pú çín yên pú çín yĭ;* and the other, that as a substitution for the characters of AMIOT, he has given forms of his own: just as horse-stealers, to escape detection, disfigure the manes and tails of the steeds they make off with. But what on this occasion says Dr. Montucci? Wincing under the charge of plagiarism, the doctor makes one more effort to relieve his withers, by adding that 'he had taken it from AMIOT, *without any servile copying by transparencies*, as may be seen by *collating* them.' Does the doctor then affect the execration in TOM THUMB?—'*Cursed be the man that first a simile made, and liken'd things that are not like at all!*'—Does *he* set himself up for a better judge of Chinese than *Amiot* himself? We think this claim will not be readily granted, and therefore that the distinction between '*a mere copier*' and *an author that copies*, will only make him ridiculous.

By way of a lure to conciliate subscribers, the doctor vouchsafes to hint, that 'the exemplification of these small characters was besides materially necessary to *him*, for an intended publication of a *Chinese New Testament*, which he had been requested to undertake.'—How long are the unsuspecting to be entrapped by such pious pretences? From an error of MUNGO PARK—who appears to have mistaken *the Prophecies of Isaiah* for *the Gospel of Jesus*, الاخبيل لعيسي—an *Arabic Bible* for the conversion of Mahomedan negroes hath, we hear, been projected. But, besides his 'Chinese New Testament,' our doctor hath been requested to undertake 'a Chinese Dictionary,' and, in compliance with these solicitations, hath actually compiled a folio page of 126 Chinese characters, both large and small, 'wherein every phrase is furnished with proper small characters, though all manuscript dictionaries in London (Mr. *Raper*'s not excepted) give only one large character at the head of each article. This specimen was seen, before the appearance of the Reviews here alluded to, by many characters eminent in literature, of whom he is not willing to introduce the names: but as to its existence, he refers the sce-

Digitized by Google

tic to the following London booksellers—Mr. Davies, Mr. Sewell, and Mr. Hood.'

As to the '*many characters* EMINENT IN LITERATURE *who have seen this specimen*,' it is rather singular that not one has ventured his name to approve it; and in respect to the attestation of the booksellers, we do not require it; for their rejection of the project it was meant to recommend is sufficient to evince it existed.

'Dr. Montucci, in conclusion, begs to be excused, if there is any thing in this answer that is rather *poignant*; and on reflecting how immoderate the Reviewers have been in that respect, and that they are besides on the wrong side of the question, the doctor thinks the following Apologue, communicated to him by Mr. JOSSE, Spanish professor, very pertinent, and begs leave to finish his answer with it.

'*The* LEECH *and the* VIPER.

'The VIPER meeting the LEECH, after other conversation, the former introduced a complaint on the very unequal success of their species, in the familiarity with mankind. She observed to the LEECH, that while their instinct was the very same, viz. that of biting and sucking human blood, yet the human race took so much notice of LEECHES, and shunned the very sight of a VIPER. 'It is very true,' replied the LEECH, 'but it is not so much to be wondered at, when we reflect that, although we both suck human blood, I give life to man, and you instant death.'

That *we are on the wrong side of the question*, is a decision of Dr. Montucci's in his own case; and as such we shall say nothing of it: that we have been immoderate in our treatment of him, we deny; for we shall ever deem it a duty to detect the insufficiency and repress the arrogance of conceited sciolists and unqualified pretenders. Instead of remarking on the absurdity of a SUCKING *Viper* (for perhaps in *Spain* and *Italy* vipers *may* suck), we will refer the doctor to a *biting* one: he will find it in the fable of *The Viper and File*.

Dr. Montucci having made common cause with Dr. Hager and ourselves, both in his *Answer* and *Postscript*, notwithstanding the replies of the latter in *The Monthly Magazine*, we are compelled to notice the strictures of the former.

Dr. Hager is charged with having copied the 214 Elements from FOURMONT, and then maligned for their want of resemblance to those he copied from. Had not Dr. Montucci been a stranger to what had passed in Germany relative to Dr. Hager's Chinese Dictionary, he would have known that the Elements in question were not taken from Fourmont, but from Chinese originals in the royal library at Berlin: till therefore the

Digitized by Google

censurer shall have shown their dissimilitude by collation, we will presume the likeness to be perfect, and the rather from their having been made 'by the assistance of *transparent paper*'—a method which Dr. Montucci, in his dashing style, so vauntingly reprobates. Sore at having been called a *plagiarist* in *The Monthly Magazine*, the doctor thus breaks out:—'And what name then must Dr. Hager deserve, who after having inaccurately copied his 214 *Elementary Characters*, or *Keys* from *Fourmont's Meditationes*, far from mentioning this circumstance in his work, has contemptibly styled the learned and classical eloquence of that extraordinary genius 'verbosity, as to exhaust the patience of every inquirer?'—What a tasteless dunce is Dr. Hager, to have formed his judgement of style from a Sallust and Tacitus, rather than such writers as Fourmont and Montucci!—In reference to the crimination this apostrophe contains, how would the charge of plagiarism, if fixed on Dr. Hager, contribute in the least to exonerate himself? But these 214 *Elements* are of such a nature, that the compiler of a *Primer* might as well be expected to cite whence he took the alphabet it begins with, as Dr. Hager to quote an authority for the *Keys*.

'Dr. Hager' is said, 'by an unaccountable anachronism of many ages, to have passed from the characters *Chuen-tsu* (his half Portuguese and half French pron.) to the *Tsao-tsu* (his French pron.) and totally omits speaking of this interesting epoch and style of writing.' To this charge it is enough to reply, that Dr. Hager's work was never meant, as may be seen from its title, to be a history of Chinese characters, but an explanation only of the *Elementary* signs, with an analysis of their *ancient symbols and hieroglyphics*. But nothing can please this fastidious critic. One while Dr. Hager is censured for not deviating from his subject; at another he is reprehended for an incidental digression. At Dr. Hager's pronunciation his opponent again snarls; but, what appears rather odd, himself adopts and repeats it. It had better, however, become him to correct it; which, since he has not, we will, for them both. The former are styled by AMIOT *Tchouen Tsée*, and the latter *Tsao Tsée*, as before was remarked.

We proceed to the *Postscript* of Dr. Montucci; and it thus begins. 'The note of the Prefatory Letter to Dr. Montucci's Proposals having been published at length by the Critical Reviewers, Dr. Montucci thinks proper to enumerate the *erroneous observations* there alluded to, inserted from Dr. Hager's work, in their Review for April 1801.'—On perusing this sentence, the surprise of the reader may perhaps equal our own, when, notwithstanding the reference to p. 364 of our Review for the following passage, he is told that—'The proof of a conjecture founded on the apparent similarity of the Roman figures with the figures and sounds representing them in Chinese'—

Digitized by Google

cited as the first of *our* ERRONEOUS OBSERVATIONS, is an entire fabrication of Dr. Montucci's. With the nonsense so exultingly offered in reply we therefore have not any concern.

The second 'erroneous observation' imputed to us, and professedly cited from p. 368—'The old writing *ku-wen* to be only images or representations of forms,' is part of a sentence patched up from that page; but the remark upon it is as little to the purpose as the History of Jack Hickathrift with the discovery of the longitude.

Observation the third, p. 396.—'The characters in general application, or the *running hand of hieroglyphics*, to be the greater part synonymous, and the word *an age* to be written in the modern style in a hundred different manners.'

These fragments of sentences present another of the doctor's garblings; whilst what follows, in opposition to it, promises an example from Mr. Raper's papers, which confirms Dr. Hager's instance.

The fourth *erroneous observation* charged on our Review, p. 369, is, 'That *ten thousand* characters are to be known to read the best books of each dynasty.' The comment upon which asserts that '*This is to persuade the Europeans that they cannot understand Chinese till they are approved at the college of Pekin, and rank very high among those professors!*' How happy at invention is this Dr. Montucci! Neither ourselves nor Dr. Hager ever made the assertion. On the contrary, what we cited from Dr. Hager implies in fact the reverse. 'When a proper allowance is made, it will be found' [instead of its being necessary to learn the 80,000 characters which the *Tching-tseetung*, or Chinese Dictionary of the Vatican, in twenty-six volumes, contains] 'that about 10,000 are sufficient for reading the best books of each dynasty.' In opposition, however, Dr. Montucci affirms that 'he will clearly prove, with the authority of *Cibot*, that TWO THOUSAND are sufficient to understand the classical dictionaries of China, and consequently all books by consulting the dictionaries.' Let us refer to *Cibot* himself. (*Mém. des Mission. de Peking, tome* 9.) This very accurate writer, inquiring 'how many Chinese characters are necessary to be known before the *King* and other books of Chinese history can be read?' observes, 'The canon Schohier pronounced heraldry to be an abyss, which, after a study of thirty or forty years, still presents something new. I could almost venture' (adds *Cibot*) 'to say the same in regard to Chinese characters; but to avoid the scandal of the comparison, I candidly acknowledge it is commonly said in China that the knowledge of 10,000 characters is requisite to be a good *Sieou-tsai* or bachelor: but be it observed, that to know them in this sense, is not only to know their principal significations, which is no little matter, but, what is much more, to be able

Digitized by Google

to write them memoriter, without varying a stroke. As the characters of the *King* are scarcely 10,000, an European who knew them would be able to read with pleasure and profit the best books of all the dynasties, without recurring to his dictionary, though he might have to encounter some characters unknown.'—We leave Dr. Montucci to reconcile this with the assertion he has pledged to make good, adding only from Dr. Hager the following note: " Le nombre de caractères (selon le P. Mailla) suffisant pour l'usage, ne va pas au-delà de 9,353, ou tout au plus de 10,516. Ce nombre renferme tous ceux des anciens livres, et ceux dont on peut avoir besoin pour écrire sur toutes sortes de matières. Aussi les plus habiles lettrés ne connoissent-ils guères plus de 8 ou 10,000 caractères.'

' The number of Chinese RADICAL MÓNOSYLLABLES ' Dr. Montucci charges, as our FIFTH *erroneous observation*, ' to be either 318, or 350, or 400,' (referring again to p. 369). Our words are simply these: ' Numerous as the Chinese characters are, their WORDS are surprisingly few: Bayer makes them no more than 318, of which he has given a list; but Dr. Hager reckons 400.' Not a syllable have we added by way of remark, more than the parenthesis [*afterwards* 350] to note Dr. Hager's disagreement with himself. But such is the fidelity of Dr. Montucci, when he chooses to make a citation!

He refers again to our Review, p. 370, for ' the exemplification of the five tones by the monosyllable FU,' as our next *erroneous observation*. This page, on our part, is a bare extract from Dr. Hager, and therefore, if it contain aught erroneous, it is falsely charged against us; as not less is the next imputation, ' which concerns the application of musical notes to the Chinese grammatical tones,' and has the following comment subjoined,—' *which is as much as to say, that no one can speak Chinese but those who know music.*' What an admirable trick of forging absurdities in order to confute them!—This calumny, however, is miserable in the extreme. Dr. Hager nowhere said it is requisite to learn music, but merely related what *Pantoja* had done; in the same manner as other missionaries did before him. It behoved Dr. Montucci to have quarreled with the father, and assailed him as the author of this ingenious expedient.

Respecting the beauty of Dr. Hager's characters, we make no scruple to state it, as in proportion to their difference from those of his opponent. That Dr. Montucci therefore should have SHUDDERED at the perusal of Dr. Hager's book, we are very ready to credit.

Dr. Hager is reprehended for faults in some of his accents; but were the fact *proved* instead of being asserted, he might appeal to the candor of his readers, if, among so many, some oversight had escaped. In faults of this kind, Fourmont

Digitized by Google

abounds; probably they are but *typographic* errors. As to the 'four only wrong in the Reviewers' referred to in p. 366, we cannot devise what the doctor could intend: Mr. Pope has observed, that 'true no-meaning puzzles more than wit;' and in writing this article we have often found it so. Dr. Montucci has added, as we presume, another reference by way of correction; yet there is nothing, in either page pointed out, that applies in the least to the point. The doctor's account of his *Chinese treasures*, and his curious comment upon them, are much too ridiculous to deserve a remark.

As to the rivalship and enmity which Dr. Hager's publication hath excited, every authority to which Dr. Montucci referred, if we except the suffrage of the *Reviewer in the Gentleman's Magazine* [See the two critiques there given on Dr. Hager's book], hath absolutely decided against him. Dr. MONTUCCI, though OCCASIONAL CHINESE TRANSCRIBER TO HIS MAJESTY, AND TO THE HONOURABLE EAST-INDIA COMPANY, long as he hath projected his Dictionary, could gain the protection of neither; whilst Dr. Hager, a stranger in the country, on giving out his proposals, obtained the patronage of the *India House*, and a handsome subscription for his work. Having, by way of *Prospectus*, published his Elements of the Chinese, the merits of this essay attracted the attention of France; and after undergoing the scrutiny of the best judges at Paris, the government of that country, for the purpose of completing his plan, invited him thither, and conferred upon him an appointment, honourable alike both to the minister and himself. We could tell *who*, whilst this business was transacting, spared no pains to supplant him; and for that purpose advanced his own pretensions with all due parade. We could also tell WHOSE pretensions were appreciated in proportion to their merit, and were treated in consequence as they deserved.

ART. XV.—*A Defence of Public Education, addressed to the most reverend the Lord Bishop of Meath, by William Vincent, D.D. In Answer to a Charge annexed to his Lordship's Discourse preached at St. Paul's, on the Anniversary Meeting of the Charity Children, and published by the Society for promoting Christian Knowledge.* 8vo. 1s. 6d. Cadell *and* Davies. 1802.

IN a sermon preached before the Society for promoting Christian Knowledge, Dr. Rennell, in his usual manner, inveighed most bitterly against public schools; and in a note, suspended to his discourse printed by that society, inserted the following words:

Digitized by Google

'We cannot but lament, that in *very few* of our best endowed seminaries, the study of Christianity has that portion of time and regard allotted to it which the welfare of society, the progress of delusive and ruinous errors, and the true interest of sound learning itself, seems at the present time *peculiarly* to call for. In *some* of them, and those not of *small* celebrity or importance, *all* consideration of the revealed will of God is passed over with a resolute, systematic, and contemptuous neglect, which is not exceeded in that which the French call their *National Institute*.' P. 32.

Dr. Vincent, who is a member of the society, felt himself hurt by such a general accusation; but by the interference of some common friends, and an exception on the part of Dr. Rennell in favour of Westminster-school, *articles of peace* were entered into by the reverend polemics. At the last anniversary meeting of the society, the customary sermon was preached by the bishop of Meath, who, following up the charge against public schools, thus once more sounded the trumpet of defiance. 'I had proposed,' he observes, 'to say a few words on

'—the sad degeneracy of our public schools, in this most important part of education, and their systematic neglect of that religious instruction which, in the earlier parts of the reformation, and even to a much later date, was so carefully provided for the higher and wealthier classes of the British youth; but I found the subject anticipated by Dr. Rennell, in his sermon on this anniversary, and I could add nothing to what that zealous and eloquent preacher had there urged, to call the public attention to this portentous evil.' P. 10.

This has renewed the inflammation heretofore only palliated in Dr. Vincent's mind; and it has vented itself in a severe castigation of Dr. Rennell, by no means greater, however, than by his intemperate language he deserved.

Dr. Vincent is evidently irritated to a very high degree, or he could not have supposed his antagonist so ignorant of a Westminster education. 'Dr. Rennell was bred at Eton, and has lived at Winchester; but he knows no more of Westminster than Tom Paine does of the Bible—just enough to misrepresent and condemn, but nothing to qualify him for a judge of what is good and excellent.' Is there any thing so very mysterious, then, at Westminster, that one must spend seven years in the long room to understand the general routine of a scholar's life? *We* were not educated at Westminster; yet, from our intercourse in the university with Eton, Winchester, and Westminster scholars, few events worthy of note have of late occurred in any of those schools which we have not been well acquainted with: their plans of education have been perfectly familiar to us; and what has been familiar to us may also have been familiar to Dr. Rennell.

Digitized by Google

But 'what right,' inquires our author, 'had Dr. Rennell to assume the office of censor?' If the charge had been well grounded—and we shall not scruple to assert that it was not—the right would have been unquestionable, and the public would also have been much indebted to him for sounding the alarm. This sort of reply is too common among controversialists.—What right had Luther, an unknown Benedictine, to attack the errors of the church of Rome? If in any society we were to wait till those in eminence begin a reform, the prospect of improvement would be distant indeed. Such persons must be roused by repeated and irresistible attacks, and must be incited to action by marks of public indignation. If, after much inquiry, Dr. Rennell had grounds for the charges he has preferred, we should have justified the strongest language he could have employed in such a service. 'If we do not do our duty,' says the author, 'we are amenable; but not before the tribunal of Dr. Rennell.' But to what other tribunal does the author here refer? If the accusation urged against public schools were just, from what quarter could it issue better than from the pulpit, filled on an occasion like the present—from a doctor in divinity, a preacher of celebrity—from a prelate who succeeded him—and from the press, under the sanction of the Society for promoting Christian Knowledge?

The charge of neglected duty, urged against Dr. Rennell in a parochial institution, is equally futile as to the main point at issue between the reverend adversaries. Dr. Vincent may have catechised charity children with regularity, and Dr. Rennell may never have asked one of them a question; but the regulation of public schools is neither improved nor deteriorated by this circumstance. The charge has been advanced, and a direct answer to such a charge is expected. In such reply Dr. Vincent has so strong a foundation upon which to fix himself, that we cannot but lament the irritation which has led him to introduce so much irrelevant matter.

The pagan education of public schools is inferred from the constant perusal of classical books; but our author justly observes, that no boy is now such an idiot as to be seduced by pagan mythology to pagan worship, and that the morality of the Gospel is in all public schools *perpetually* contrasted with the defective knowledge of the ancients; while a repetition of daily prayers, and a frequent perusal of the Greek Testament, as well as exercises in the Old, are constituent parts of such institutions. At Westminster, it seems, religious offices of one sort or other are performed not less than ten times a day. The scholars are compelled to translate the Psalms, the Gospels, and to make verses on subjects taken from the Bible. The Catechism, or bishop Williams's Exposition, is regularly repeated on

Digitized by Google

Monday morning; and Grotius on the Evidences of the Christian Religion completes the course of theology, which is run through by the upper boys in the period of two years. We need not recur to several inferior points: these alone are sufficient to prove that Dr. Vincent has amply vindicated his establishment from the charge of 'a resolute, systematic, and contemptuous neglect of religion;' and we have no doubt that every master of a public school could bring similar testimonies in its favour. Instead of advancing such an illiberal accusation against the system of public schools, Dr. Rennell would have been better employed in showing the *effects* of this regular systematic attention to religion in the pupils upon whom it is bestowed; and if he had not possessed frequent opportunities of examining an upper boy as to his progress in religious knowledge, a walk or two in the cloisters of Westminster might at least have afforded him an opportunity of witnessing the courtesy, the urbanity, the gentleness of manners, that result from these religious exercises, and which are so conspicuous in the scholars of that seminary.

Upon the whole, there can be no doubt that every reader of Dr. Vincent's pamphlet will consider it as a call on Dr. Rennell, either to palliate the asperity of his censure, or to advance some proofs on which it may be justified. His accusation will not indeed do much injury to any public school; but he must beware lest the virulence of his language should expose him to similar retorts in future:—

'Si pergit, quæ volt, dicere; ea, quæ non volt, audiet.'

MONTHLY CATALOGUE.

RELIGION.

ART. 16.—*Annotations on the Four Gospels. Compiled and abridged for the Use of Students.* 2 *Vols.* 8vo. 14*s. Boards.* Payne.

THIS work is intended for, and can be useful only to, students; and we are rather surprised that, as it is so interlarded with Hebrew, Greek, and Latin, the compilers did not prefer a learned language, and adapt it to a more extensive circulation. Of the utility of such a work there can be no doubt; but the present compilation is far

Digitized by Google

from answering the expectations we had formed of it from a perusal of the Introduction; though even there we found, on reverting to it, the same defect that pervades the body of the work. The whole of these Annotations might have been made, with very few exceptions, as well fifty years ago as at the present moment. Michaelis's Remarks on the New Testament, and Doddrige's Commentaries, are occasionally indeed referred to; but Whitby, Grotius, Hammond, Beza, Le Clerc, and Lightfoot, are the writers chiefly consulted: and the authors seem either not to have known, or to have refused the assistance to be drawn from, the labours of the late archbishop of Armagh, Griesbach, Campbell, Dœdulein, Eichhorn, and many of the more modern, both English and German, critics and commentators. Indeed, in the Introduction, a short list, as it is called, is given of some of the earlier critics since the revival of letters, which commences with Erasmus, A.D. 1516, and terminates with Calmet, 1712;—between which last date and the present times we possess a series of critics and commentators far more useful than all their predecessors together. The plan and execution of this work are calculated rather to lead the way to a more useful publication, than to satisfy the wishes of the scriptural student; and a publication of this kind well executed would find great encouragement, we are persuaded, in both our universities.

ART. 17.—*A Sermon preached at Knaresborough, Aug.* 16, 1801, *for the Benefit of the Sunday Schools. By the Rev. Samuel Clapham, M.A.* 8vo. 1s. Rivingtons. 1801.

A little spice of fulsome panegyric in the dedication to the bishop of the diocese made us enter with some degree of diffidence on the perusal of this discourse; in which, however, we have found much more room for approbation than censure. The subject is a very important one, in which we may say the whole nation is highly interested: it is on the utility and conduct of Sunday-schools, with reference particularly to those of Knaresborough, where we are happy to learn that two hundred children are instructed under these institutions. The first thing suggested in the conduct of them is, that the scholars should walk to and from church in an orderly manner—a point in which we cordially unite with the minister; but we were surprised to find the hint, that they should not 'attempt, as is their present practice, with offensive emulation and outrageous strife, each to get out of the church before another.' This is so idle a practice, and so very different from any thing that we have observed in other places, that a stop ought to be put to it immediately at Knaresborough; and the smallest exertion on the part of the minister would effectually answer the purpose. He has nothing more to do than to regulate the place of each child, to give directions that no one quit his seat till the congregation have left the church, and to stand himself in the aisle of the church as they are walking out. They should have a place appropriated to them in the church, should occupy it prior to the commencement of divine service; and we have often seen them laudably engaged, anterior to the arrival of the congregation, in singing hymns or psalms, which, if due care be taken that no one overstrains his voice, and that simple melodies be introduced alone, is highly gratifying to the assembly. We were surprised to find that the

Digitized by Google

parents required any inducement to send their children to school; as in the instances we have witnessed both parents and children seized the opportunity with the greatest eagerness. Indeed the clergyman in such places was accustomed to spend two hours at least every Sunday with the children, and was assisted by ladies in the neighbourhood, who should always be encouraged to patronise these institutions. By a little kindness and attention, the affections of children are easily obtained; and the learning and recitation of one of Dr. Watts's Hymns, which will otherwise be regarded as a task, we have seen considered as an honour and gratification. The preacher seems to us too intent on the Common Prayer-book, which, however, is rather too difficult in many places for the apprehension of children, whose whole time may much better be employed in perusing the Bible distinctly, without false tones, and with due attention to the stops, the difficult parts being omitted, and easy questions being proposed on every paragraph. We were sorry to see a hint that a clergyman should be encouraged to turn common informer, and run to justices of peace to exact penalties against carriers. We find no such hints in the Epistles of St. Paul to Timothy or Titus. Let him, by precept and example, take care of his own parish, privately remonstrate with those who neglect his church, note those who frequent the public-house during its service, and prove to all that he has a real interest in their spiritual welfare; and he will learn that a good clergyman requires no aid from the civil magistrate.

ART. 18.—*The Name of the Lord—great among the Gentiles: A Sermon, preached at the Re-opening of the General Baptist Meeting-House, Church-Street, Deptford, on Sunday the 17th of May* 1801, *after it had been shut up for Repairs. By John Evans, A.M. &c.* 8vo. 6d. Symonds.

A plain scriptural discourse on the gradual diffusion of the knowledge of God over the world. The allusion to the circumstances of opening the place of worship is just; and with pleasure we say to this preacher, on reviewing the present, and looking back on his preceding publications, Go on and prosper!

ART. 19.—*A Thanksgiving for Plenty, and a Warning against Avarice: A Sermon, preached in the Cathedral at Litchfield, on Sunday September* 20, 1801. *By the Rev. Robert Nares.* 8vo. 1s. Rivingtons. 1801.

The avarice alluded to in this discourse is that of some farmers who, taking advantage of the distress of the times, hoarded up their corn, and would not let their neighbours have it at a price which, when they entered on their farms, was far beyond their most sanguine expectations. For this abominable practice several have suffered, and deservedly, considerable loss; and in a commercial country like ours a disposition like this cannot receive too strong admonitions from the pulpit. This spirit of avarice, which has not yet infected the whole of the nation, is properly represented by the preacher to be similar to that of idolatry, with which the ancient nations disgraced themselves; and the effect of it upon a country is to degrade the minds of every class, and to make them an easy prey to either inter-

Digitized by Google

nal dissensions or the invasion of an enemy. It can be checked only by inducing the rising generation to set a just value on the qualities belonging to the man himself, rather than to the factitious advantages of wealth; but the weight of our taxes, and the consideration annexed to property, forbid us to hope that much can be done by instruction, or preaching, against the torrent of corruption, which by such contrary and powerful causes seems likely to be generated.

ART. 20.—*A Sermon, preached before the Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn, on Friday, Feb.* 13, 1801; *being the Day appointed by his Majesty's Proclamation for a general Fast. By William Jackson, D.D.* 4*to.* 1*s.* 6*d.* Rivingtons. 1801.

On the Sunday preceding a fast-day the former part of this discourse might be very proper, to prepare the minds of a congregation for the approaching solemnity; but after the prayers for the day have been offered up to heaven, and the audience has evidently listened to the commands of their earthly sovereign, it seems needless to enter upon a discussion respecting the propriety of a national fast. The latter part of the discourse is more suited to the real occasion; yet we see no reason for dignifying the love of our country with the title of a *sacred principle*, since even the wickedest of men may possess it, as well as the most religious. It is no where styled sacred in Scripture; and it is only a branch of that love in which Christians ought not to be inferior to heathens, publicans, and sinners—though they will be on their guard against those excesses into which the love of one's country has betrayed the irreligious and profane.

ART. 21.—*A Manual of Reflexions on the Facts of Revelation. In Two Parts.* 8*vo.* 1*s.* 6*d.* Rivingtons. 1801.

A useful publication for young persons, bringing within a short compass the chief facts related in the Scriptures, and proving, in a manner that may challenge infidelity to refute it, the truth of revealed religion.

ART. 22.—*Two Addresses to the Inhabitants of the several Parishes in the Deaneries of Louth-Esk, and Ludburgh, Calcewaith, Horncastle, Gartree, Bolingbroke, Candleshoe, and Hill; within the Archdeaconry of Lincoln:—one on the Duty of Family Prayer, and the other on reading the Holy Scriptures. To which are added Forms of Morning and Evening Prayers, a Selection of Psalms, and occasional Prayers, principally taken from the Collects and other Parts of the Liturgy of the Church of England. By a Committee of the Clergy of the aforesaid Deaneries.* 8*vo.* 1*s.* Rivingtons.

The title-page is a sufficient guide to the contents of this work, which is a compilation from sermons, prayers, and psalms. The clergymen of the committee by which it was compiled will employ a portion of their time well in reading this work in their respective parishes, both in the farm-house and in the cottage: they will then perceive what benefit is likely to result from their address; and, by noting down what is not suited to the apprehension of the generality of readers

Digitized by Google

and hearers, may make another report, and very materially improve the compilation now offered to the public.

ART. 23.—*An Assize Sermon, preached at Wisbech, on Thursday, July 9, 1801, before Edward Christian, Esq. Chief Justice, and other Magistrates of the Isle of Ely, and published at their Request. By William Mair, A.B.* 8vo. 1s. No Publisher's Name.

The preacher forgets the dignity of his office when he talks of increasing the penalties against adultery. He has nothing at all to do in the pulpit, we repeat it, with the recommendation of civil rewards or punishments: it is his office to point out to every one a proper discharge of their duties, from the motives held out to all in the Gospel.

ART. 24.—*Thoughts on the Observance of the Sabbath, and private Prayer: Addressed to the Inhabitants of the Parish of Aughton. By George Vanbrugh, LL.B. &c.* 8vo. 1s. 6d. No Publisher's Name. 1801.

A very sensible address from a resident clergyman to his parishioners on the nature of the Sabbath, with some useful prayers for their private devotions.

ART. 25.—*Familiar Instructions for Young People, relating to the Holy Festivals of the Church of England. By a Clergyman.* 8vo. 4d. Rivingtons. 1801.

Some little information on our feasts and fasts: but when the writer recommends a peculiar observance of Lent and the four weeks in Advent, he is not likely in these times to receive much attention. Indeed both Lent and Advent seem to be falling into desuetude; and in cathedral towns only is it known, and even there by very few people, that these seasons of the year were formerly marked by very superstitious observances.

MEDICINE, &c.

ART. 26.—*A Second Essay on Burns, in which an Attempt is made to refute the Opinions of Mr. Earle and Sir William Farquhar, lately advanced on the supposed Benefit of the Application of Ice in such Accidents; with Cases and Communications confirming the Principles and Practice brought forward in a former Essay. Also Proofs, particularly addressed to the Army and Navy, of the Utility of the Stimulating Plan in the Treatment of Injuries caused by the Explosion of Gunpowder. By Edward Kentish, Author of the former Essay.* 8vo. 3s. *sewed.* Mawman.

We reviewed the first essay in our 23d volume, New Arr. p. 100; and then stated the author's opinions, with such remarks as occurred to us—leaving the conclusion to further experience. This, from our own practice, we have not yet attained. Mr. Kentish seems to have employed the stimulating plan with continued success, and 'criticises' with some severity Mr. Earle's remedy of icy cold, repeatedly employed. Though it may be stigmatised by the name of theory, we shall give an abstract of those views which we think should influence our conclusions.

Digitized by Google

The first effect of heat is indisputably stimulant;—this by exhausting the excitability, soon occasions a very different state; and the inflammation produced by slight burns is erysipelatous. By a more violent degree of heat, an inflammation of the same kind rapidly terminates in mortification. The first attempt certainly should be, to lessen inflammation; and hence the continued application of cold has been recommended. This practice is judicious, and has been undoubtedly successful. It should however be long and *steadily* continued; for if interrupted, the inflammation and pain return more violently than before. In *very* violent burns, if long and steadily continued, there is reason to apprehend that it will hasten the mortification, if it do not check the inflammation. We have found this last effect, we think, from the liberal use of opiates; but we mean not this as an objection to a part of Mr. Kentish's plan, because we have not used these, in conjunction with the rest of his stimulating applications and remedies. Another idea is that of our present author. If we do not at once counteract the first effect, viz. that of inordinate excitement, by producing an opposite change, may it not be expedient to diminish the excitement progressively, and apply a stimulant which acts less violently than the great heat which occasioned the mischief—as, in the case of frost-bitten limbs, cold, of somewhat less intensity, is first employed with advantage? The analogy, perhaps, will not strictly hold: the immediate effect of continued cold is, to produce mortification, which is only an indirect effect of the heat of burns. If the burn be, however, very violent, the analogy will be closer, as the mortification is more rapid in its approach. But here another danger awaits, that of exciting the accumulated irritability too rapidly, so as to bring on the opposite state of active inflammation. This appears to have been done in more than one of the cases here recited, where purging was found useful, and where bleeding from the arm would undoubtedly have been advantageous.

One other view remains. If caloric be a body, as the modern chemists contend, may not that body be separated by some substance with which it is related by chemical affinity?—though, without any assistance from chemistry for the supposition, we can see from this suggestion a foundation for the use of oil, scraped potatoes, cold apples, or vinegar. In reality, from all that we have beheld, we greatly prefer the application of vinegar, followed by the chalk. From this only have we avoided the suppuration; and, in every instance, *where there is no loss of substance*, the supervening suppuration is to us a mark that the first part of the process has not been properly pursued. If the vinegar be duly and steadily applied, no suppuration takes place: the serous effusion loses its acrimony after the application of the chalk, and becomes a mild gelatinous substance, under which the new skin is formed. We have seen the most violent burn from steam, which in a moment raised large vesications, cured in this way within a week.

This view of the subject will connect these different remedies, and, we trust, guard against the inconveniences of each. If we were to add any thing, we should advise, instead of the vinegar, a diluted muriatic acid, or an addition of this acid to the acetous. Yet

Digitized by Google

should the vinegar succeed so well with others as it has done with us, we see no reason for the change.

Mr. Kentish's plan consists in the application of oil of turpentine, with doses of opium moderately large (about forty drops of the tinct. opii twice a day), and a cordial regimen. He, after some time, applies the finely powdered chalk in a poultice. The inconvenience we have already asserted to be the danger of bringing on the inflammatory state; and, were we to blame our author, —which we should be cautious of doing, as we profess to have had no experience of our own respecting this plan,—it would be for not carefully distinguishing this second stage, and employing his evacuations more early. An accidental diarrhœa has alone led him to recur to them at all. We own, too, that we wished to have seen a little more candor for the opinions and practice of other authors. Each may have attained his end in different ways, and neither should be condemned for preferring his own system.

Art. 27.—*The Medical Assistant, or Jamaica Practice of Physic, designed chiefly for the Use of Families and Plantations. By Thomas Dancer, M. D. &c. 4to. 1l. 1s. Boards.* Murray *and* Highley.

This, though a popular work, is greatly superior to every similar collection that it has been our fortune to peruse; and contains a sufficiently ample, as well as a very judicious, account of the diseases most prevalent within the tropics, with the remedies adapted for their relief. The author's knowledge is very extensive, and his opinions usually correct. We have perused the whole with great pleasure, and should have enlarged farther on it, had not its popular nature rendered the greater part of it too familiar, while some of the peculiar customs and complaints were less interesting to European readers. What Dr. Dancer observes on *dirt-eating* (a disease common among negroes), on the effects of some of the vegetable productions of Jamaica, and on *fish-poison*, is peculiarly interesting;—but he does not seem aware, in the latter case, that the poison arises from their eating sea-insects.

EDUCATION.

Art. 28.—*Hints for a Plan of general National Education, and a Legislative Revision of the present System, as it respects the Children of the Nobility and Gentry, the middle Classes, and the Children of the Poor. By David Morrice.* 8vo. 1s. Rivingtons. 1801.

We recommend to this writer Dr. Vincent's flagellation of Dr. Rennell, on the neglect of religion attributed by the latter to our public schools and seminaries of education. Our author is not ashamed to assert of our universities, that 'as to collegiate lectures by the tutors, on the truths of the Christian religion, there are none.'—Pretty decisive indeed! The university must be strangely altered since we were undergraduates; for we do assert that we did attend collegiate lectures on the truths of the Christian religion, if most excellent lectures on the Greek Testament, in which every subject relative to Christianity was in its order discussed, be to be ranked among the lectures on the truths of the Christian religion. Many a remark in that lecture-room has been since received with approbation by the public; and the pupils recollect with pleasure the

Digitized by Google

instruction they derived from their indefatigable and most respectable tutor. Before this writer presumes to intrude on the legislature again with his *hints*, let him go to the two universities, and acquaint himself with the real state of education in those seminaries;—he may then be better qualified to point out their advantages and disadvantages. Why does he deviate from his line? Let him keep to the academies.

ART. 29.—*The Order and Method of instructing Children; with Strictures on the modern System of Education. By George Crabb.* 8vo. 3*s.* 6*d. Boards.* Longman *and* Rees. 1801.

The writers on education are numerous, and the press is teeming with new systems, each of which professes to introduce a mode of cultivation that will rear the tender plant to a perfection unknown to former ages. Our system-mongers are for treating the human race just in the same manner as modern cattle-breeders—there is to be an immensity of fat placed in this or that place: and he succeeds the best, and gains the highest prize, who produces, by oil-cakes or grains, or any other artificial mode of treatment, the most unwieldy monster. Children may be too much as well as too little educated; their minds as well as their bodies may be over burdened. The writer of this very sensible and judicious tract, aware of this error, is willing to introduce a mode of gradual instruction, by which the young person shall be taught to think first on easy subjects, and thence be led to others of a difficult and more complicated nature. His view of the human mind is just: his plan may be easily brought into practice; and we shall with pleasure peruse the works which he intends to publish for the benefit of children of all ages. For the present, we heartily recommend the treatise before us to the perusal of parents and schoolmasters.

ART. 30.—*Visits to the Aviary. For the Instruction of Youth.* 12mo. 1*s.* 6*d. Boards.* Vernor *and* Hood.

A description of a considerable number of birds, written in a manner that will be likely to attract the notice of children.

ART. 31.—*The Village Maid; or Dame Burton's Moral Stories for the Instruction and Amusement of Youth. By Elizabeth Somerville. To which are added Plain Tales.* 12mo. 2*s. Boards.* Vernor *and* Hood. 1801.

Dame Burton's moral stories may be read by children with the same success as works of this nature usually are; but the Plain Tales at the end can be of no sort of advantage, because they propose no subjects for imitation. It is not likely that parents, who are too poor to buy tea for breakfast, or are glad of a few chips brought home in a ragged apron, can afford to get this book as a lesson for their children.

ART. 32.—*Juvenile Philosophy; containing amusing and instructive Discourses on Hogarth's Prints of the Industrious and Idle Apprentices; Analogy between Plants and Animals, &c. &c.—designed to enlarge the Understandings of Youth, and to impress them at an early Period with just and liberal Conceptions.* 12mo. 2*s. Boards.* Vernor *and* Hood. 1801.

From the title of this book, a father who purchases it would ex-

Digitized by Google

pect a course of experiments and illustrations for the use of his children; but in this he would be disappointed. It contains certain detached pieces, from which indeed some instruction may be gained: but it does not deserve the name of Juvenile Philosophy.

ART. 33.—*Adventures of Musul, or the Three Gifts; with other Tales.* 12mo. 1s. 6d. *Boards.* Vernor *and* Hood.

Two or three little stories told with some animation, after the eastern manner, and with a proper moral annexed to each.

ART. 34.—*Edward, a Tale; for young Persons. Principally founded upon that much-admired Performance of the same Name, by Dr. Moore; and adapted to the Capacities of Youth, by Mrs. Pilkington.* 12mo. 1s. 6d. *Boards.* Vernor *and* Hood.

Mrs. Pilkington's name has been long known to children, as that of a very principal contributor to their amusement. She has here taken Dr. Moore's work, and moulded it into a novel for youth with her accustomed skill and precision.

POETRY.

ART. 35.—*A Translation of the Eighth Satire of Boileau on Man. Written in the Year* 1667, *and addressed to M. Morel, Doctor of the Sorbonne.* 8vo. 1s. 6d. Phillips. 1801.

The translator's ideas, of the preference due to a *literal* in comparison with a *free* version of an author, are strictly correct, and will meet the approbation of every judicious critic. From a literal translation we know what we have to expect; whereas a free translation gives us no assurance of any thing. When indeed a poet of sublime talents chooses to depart still farther from his author, and gives his readers what may be termed a paraphrase, the production will sometimes be the cause of singular gratification—as is the case with Pope's admirable imitations of Horace. But it is only by splendid abilities that this happy end can be effected. If an ordinary genius will attempt free translations, it is ten to one that he subjects himself to ridicule, and, as far as the unlearned class of readers is concerned, he implicates also the fame of the original. The version before us is entitled to the commendation of being strictly literal; it conveys uniformly the meaning of the French satirist;—but somewhat more than correctness is required from a poetical translator. He should have smoothness at least, if not polished elegance; but nothing of this quality is discoverable in the present performance. The following short quotation will sufficiently show to our readers the want of harmony in the numbers, and the negligent incorrectness of the rhymes.

'Would you the great should to your levees run,—
Observes the father to his beardless son,—
Mind the main chance: let all your books alone,
Twenty *per cent.* what is't?—Why—five gives one,
Go—'tis well said—you know all you need know,
What riches, honours, soon will on you flow!

Digitized by Google

Practise, my son, these noble sciences;
Instead of Plato, study the finances.
Learn in what provinces *traitans* grow rich,
What the amount of the *gabelle* in each.
Harden your heart,—be Arab—be *corsaire*,
Unjust, dissembling, violent, *insincere*.
Ne'er, like a fool, be generous and free,
But fatten on the spoils of misery;
And, cheating Colbert's vigilance *severe*,
Go, by your cruelties, merit fortune's *care!*
Then will you see logicians, orators,
Poets, astronomers, grammarians, doctors,
Their heroes humble to exalt your name,
And swell their dedications with your fame:
And prove to you, in Hebrew, Latin, Greek,
That all their sciences in you can speak.
He that is rich is all—though foolish, wise;
He shall, in ignorance, to knowledge rise;
Has courage, wit, distinction, merit,
Birth, virtue, learning, honour, spirit:
Lov'd by the great, encouraged by the *fair*,
No *cruelle* need the *surintendant fear*.
Gold, even to deformity, gives charms;
But poverty e'en beauty's self disarms.

'Thus, to his son, the skilful us'rer shows
The easy road to wealth, by which he rose.
And, often, they attain it, whose sole wit
Adds nine to nine, *and finds it double it.*' P. 22.

ART. 36.—*Rodolpho; a Poetical Romance. By James Atkinson.* 4to. 2*s.* Phillips. 1801.

A German ballad, entitled Leonora, was translated some time since by the poet laureat. It is full of ghosts and all the terrific imagery which so plentifully abounds in many of the poems and romances of its parent country; and, most likely, has in consequence been read by the quarterly female customers to the circulating libraries, who pay their money to be frightened rather than instructed. The author of Rodolpho has availed himself of the reigning propensity, and prepared for his fair countrywomen a string of horrors, without the trouble of going to the continent for them. Of Leonora and Rodolpho it may fairly be said—'these two make a pair.'

ART. 37.—*Alonzo and Cora; with other original Poems, principally Elegiac. By Elizabeth Scot, a Native of Edinburgh. To which are added Letters in Verse, by Blacklock and Burns.* 8vo. 10*s.* 6*d. Boards.* Rivingtons. 1801.

We have here the satisfaction of meeting a poetess of no ordinary merit. The legendary tale of Edwin and Edith is an excellent little production in the ballad style; and the imitation from Musæus is executed with very considerable spirit. The reader will readily allow

Digitized by Google

Mrs. Scot's fair title to literary fame, when he is informed that her verses have received the approbation of Allan Ramsay, Blacklock, and Burns; with the former of whom she lived in intimacy, while the two latter have favoured her with a poetical complimentary letter, added to this collection, but never before in print. There is not a poem in the volume from which we could not quote with pleasure; yet we prefer doing it from Leander and Hero, because our readers may compare it with the original, or with the well-known translation of Fawkes.

'Entranc'd in horror stood the wretched dame;
Grief dimm'd her eyes and agoniz'd her frame:
No hope remain'd the raging storm to brave;
No pitying God her dying lord to save.
Yet every God, the watery world who guides,
And every nymph that on its bosom glides,
With tears and broken accents she implor'd,
Her woes to pity and their aid afford.
But, though her tears and charms compassion mov'd,
Still mid the waves expires the youth she lov'd:
To her his faithful soul unalter'd flies;
While o'er his head the boisterous billows rise.
Love's gentle queen beheld him all dismay'd;
Him Ocean's nymphs, the Tritons, strove to aid;
Their arms around the panting youth they spread,
And oft above the billows rais'd his head.
But, ah! their feeble efforts all were vain:
Not Neptune's self could still the raging main,
Though thrice his trident struck its furious breast,
And bade with awful voice the tempest rest.
In vain the God of Love essay'd to give
The needful aid, and bid his votary live.
He and his amorous troop their wings extend,
And round the lamp with fond attention bend,
'Gainst hostile winds to guard the sacred light,
And keep the wavering flame serene and bright.
Ah! grief of griefs! the feeble lamp expires;
For now it sinks, now lifts its dying fires:
Its last faint gleams no longer light the shore,
Gleams now extinguish'd, to revive no more.
Soon, wretched nymph, shalt thou, with tearful eye,
View on the sea's cold breast thy lover lie.' P. 152.

ART. 38.—*The Free School; a Poem. To which is added an Elegy on the Death of Edmund Jenney, Esq. of Bredfield; and of Philip Bowes Broke, Esq. of Nacton. By the Rev. John Black.* 8vo. 1s. Robinsons.

We are afraid that Mr. Black, when he invoked the *silver-toned* Muse, did not cry loud enough. Either she was inspiring some other poet, 'or she was pursuing a journey;' or, as he himself surmises, 'peradventure she slept, and wanted to be awaked:' —be that as it may, there certainly 'was no voice given, nor any one to answer.' Both the poem and elegy are as spiritless

Digitized by Google

as possible; there is not a particle of the *vis poëtica* in their composition. If our readers should ask why the former was christened The Free School, we must refer them for an answer to the author: for it appears to us that any other name which could have been thought on would have suited it just as well. Ten verses in the beginning, and as many at the conclusion, are all that relate to schools or schoolboys. We will quote the former, with a few lines preceding them, as a proof that we are desirous of selecting where the writer will appear to most advantage.

'Awake thy lyre, my sportive Muse!
Its silver tones around diffuse;
Already thou hast slept too long,
Nor sooth'd me with thy gentle song:
The caterpillars now begin
Their silken filmy threads to spin;
Their bodies softly round they fold,
And shield from danger and from cold.
Though few are now the bards of note,
That spin themselves, I ween, a coat;
And fewer still possess such fire
As make a house dance to their lyre;
Yet come, my Muse, exert thy might,
To make my dwelling warm and tight.

'While *mea regna* I behold,
I'll rule a king, *de jure*, bold:
Still let the lawyers spill their ink,
Still let them bite their nails, and think—
Let their subpœnas round me fly,
Rex puerorum still am I:—
Let discord still inflate their lungs,
Still let them brawl with thund'ring tongues—
False informations let them bring—
Or in—or out—I still will sing.' p. 3.

DRAMA.

ART. 39.—*Adelmorn, the Outlaw; a Romantic Drama, in three Acts, as originally written by M. G. Lewis. First performed at Drury-Lane Theatre, on Monday May* 4, 1801. 8vo. 2*s.* 6*d.* Bell. 1801.

Had the author of this play been content to have framed a farce from his story of Adelmorn, he might without any trouble have made it interesting;—nay, with the proper exercise of that genius which he certainly possesses, and which we are always willing to allow him, he might have even worked it into a regular drama, demanding more praise than is due to a number of the pieces now in the routine of performance. But Mr. Lewis was not satisfied with success in the beaten track; he introduces, as is usual with himself, preternatural agents; what is worse, he introduces them uselessly too—and a useless ghost and vision have damned the Outlaw. In a preface of some

Digitized by Google

merit our author appears to be almost convinced that this mode of writing is culpable. It would give us great pleasure to see him not only *almost*, but *altogether* satisfied of it. One of his conclusions in this preface is assuredly a strange one. 'I firmly believe it possible to write extremely ill, yet be a very worthy member of society; and shall not feel much mortified at being known to scribble bad plays, till convinced that a dull author can never be a benevolent man.' We will take the liberty to put this position into other words, and ask Mr. Lewis what he thinks of it. 'I firmly believe it possible to know nothing of drugs, yet be a very good attorney; and shall not feel much mortified at being known to poison half the neighbourhood, till convinced that a man unskilful as an apothecary can never be an eminent lawyer.' *Risum teneatis, amici?*—We beg leave, however, to assure Mr. Lewis, that we by no means look on him as a dull writer. As a mistaken one we certainly regard him. But if he would attend half so much to classical study and chaste drama as he has unfortunately done to German absurdity, instead of a stupid fellow (as he words it) there is no doubt of his proving a very clever one. We shall be happy when he gives us occasion to speak of him as a *genuine* English dramatist.

ART. 40.—*Chains of the Heart; or, The Slave by Choice. In three Acts. Performed at the Theatre-Royal, Covent-Garden. By Prince Hoare.* 8vo. 2s. Barker. 1802.

Mr. Hoare appears to consider it wonderful himself, and supposes that the friend to whom he writes a dedication will consider it still more wonderful, 'that a piece written with apparently so harmless a design should have roused *a host in arms* to crush an unsuspecting victim.' For 'the intent of this opera was to introduce anew to the stage, and give a proper scope to the talents of two favourite singers, whose accomplished eminence leaves, in their own line, all competition at a distance.'

We should have supposed that Mr. Hoare had lived long enough in the world to see nothing at all wonderful in this. Whether these singers be really, as he believes, out of the rank of competition, or not, is nothing to the purpose; but there certainly would be other singers, and other singers' friends, who not only should question, but disbelieve it: and from among those, it seems, arose the 'diurnal critics and diurnal carpers' who found fault with Mr. Hoare's partiality and his performance.

All this, however, is nothing to us. Let managers receive as much new nonsense, or mutilate as many good old plays into nonsense, as they please, the concern is not ours whilst they keep them to the stage. But when an author prints his work, and thereby becomes a candidate for literary fame, it is then our duty to take notice of it.

The subject of this piece was not, at best, calculated for any thing excellent in the line of drama; and it is hardly possible to conceive any thing worse than what Mr. Hoare has made out of it. His accusers certainly treated him unjustly, when they said he meant it for tragedy, comedy, or farce. To the two former it has no

Digitized by Google

kind of resemblance, any farther than as it has actors in common with them: to the worst species of the last it might have been allowed some likeness, but for the bombast language in which the serious characters are made to speak. When are the witty slave-drivers, the Cotillons, and the O'Phelims, to be discontinued? We should have thought the upper gallery had been by this time gorged with them, even to vomiting. Let the author but seriously compare the following rubbish with about a dozen messes of the same sort that have been served up in half so many years, and he will be no longer surprised how 'the enlightened and candid observers' were found among the 'diurnal carpers and the diurnal critics.'

Taruda and *Seid*, two slave-merchants, are already on the stage—

'*Enter* AZAM; *two black mutes support his palanquin on each side; others bring cushions, dishes with refreshments of various sorts, his pipe, &c.*

'*Azam.* Hold, you dogs! don't move so fast. Don't I come out for my pleasure? and you give me nothing but pain.—Is my pipe there? (*a mute presents it*) And my cushion? (*mute presents one*) And my cordial cakes? (*mute presents cakes.*) Go on—gently, slaves! remember I come out for my pleasure. I can find no pleasure at home! *There* is my old wife, Grimlacca; she torments me with her ill-nature, and her jealousies; she cannot bear me because I am too young. Then, there's my young favourite slave, Zulema; she torments me with her good-nature and her follies; she cannot bear me because I'm too old!

'*Tar.* Health to you, sublime Azam!

'*Azam.* Well, have you any pretty wares?

'*Tar.* Such as will ravish your heart to behold.

'*Azam.* My heart! Poh, poh, that's all out of date with me now.—Time was, eh! Taruda! But now I've made up my mind to most matters. As to being in love—I'll tell you my maxim.

AIR.—AZAM.

A woman, I've heard, has a soul—
She may—though the doctrine seem new t'ye:
But me she can never cajole,
I pay for no more than her beauty.
What passion can vex me, or tempt me? Poh! poh!
I just take the world—as it pleases to go—
La ra la, &c.

(*He makes a sign to the mutes, who dance to amuse him, till he bids them stop; they then place themselves in an attitude of respect round him, while he sings the second stanza.*)

I never to constancy run,
To put my heart into a pother;
Before I grow faithful to *one*,
I take care to buy me *another*.
What raptures can vex me, or tempt me? Poh! poh!
I just take the world—as it pleases to go—
La ra la, &c.

(*Mutes dance as before, &c.*)

Digitized by Google

Love and wine are the same, are they not?
I use them alike to a tittle;
In neither I grow to a sot,
But I love and I tipple a little.
What fortune can vex me, or tempt me? Poh! poh!
I just take the world—as it pleases to go—
La ra la, &c.

(*Mutes, &c. as before.*)

'*Tar.* These are the maxims of wisdom, sublime Azam.

'*Azam.* To be sure they are!—Well, let me see, first, what slaves you can recommend for my grounds.

'*Tar.* We have them of all descriptions. What do you particularly look for?

'*Azam.* I want for my garden two stout-bodied fellows, who can dig and plant.

'*Tar.* My two new slaves are the very persons. Bring in the Christians who came last: I cannot warrant them from experience; but appearances are in their favour.

'*From* TARUDA'*s tent enter* COTILLON *as a soldier, and* O'PHELIM *in a cook's dress, with a soldier's coat over it.*

'*Tar.* Hold up your head, sirrah (*to Cotillon*). This is the handsomest slave in the whole fair: look at his legs; he'll march you twenty leagues in a day.

'*Azam.* Yes, and run away forty.

'(AZAM *examines* COTILLON *nicely.* COTILLON *shows signs of disdain.* AZAM *approves of him.*)

'*Azam.* (*turns to O'Phelim.*) But that fellow! how he puffs and blows!

'*Tar.* Thick breathed a little—mere accident.

'*Azam.* I am afraid he is given to the girls, and then he'll play the devil in my haram. What's his capacity?

'*Tar.* What it is in the brain, I don't know; what it is in the waist, you see.

'*Azam.* By the ruddiness of the skin, the roundness of the paunch, and a pimple or two on the nose, he looks as if he were a judge of eating and drinking. Phaugh! by Mahomet, he smells of the kitchen. How say you, can you be useful there?

'*O'Phel.* Oh, the most useful creature there in the world. I clear off every thing as I go: you may make me your cook, or your scullion, or your kitchen maid, just as you please. I have the prettiest nose, palate, and stomach, in Christendom.

'*Azam.* And what's that fellow good for? (COTILLON *makes signs to* O'PHELIM, *as directing his reply*).

'*O'Phel.* He is a great scholar—only he never speaks: very eloquent—but 'tis with his heels.

'*Azam.* What the devil is his calling?

'*O'Phel.* He is a dancing-master, begot, born and bred in a hop-step-and-jump; from some awkward steps that he made, he thought it best to hop into a soldier's coat, and to leave the profession of *legs* for that of *arms*.

'*Seid.* These are the best recommendations in his favour, sublime Azam, for labour: he has but one defect—we believe he is dumb.

'*Azam.* Well, that's in his favour too; it's the more certain he'll

never say a word to offend me. Hark ye, Christian! our custom in this country is to hang dumb people; but, as I come out to-day for my pleasure, instead of hanging him by the neck, I'll only hang you both together by the leg. As you probably understand one another, he may serve me as well as a speaking man. Here, bring my royal girts—fasten them, slaves, while I go to see the other tents.' P. 13.

Mr. Hoare, after acknowledging his obligations for one character, says, 'the *learned* reader will easily perceive that this is not the only debt of the opera which I lay before him.' We really know no *learned* work from which he has borrowed.

NOVELS.

ART. 41.—*Belinda. By Maria Edgeworth. 3 Vols. 12mo. 13s. 6d. Boards.* Johnson. 1801.

'Every author has a right to give what appellation he may think proper to his works. The public have also a right to accept or refuse the classification that is presented.

'The following work is offered to the public as a moral tale—the author not wishing to acknowledge a novel. Were all novels like those of madame de Crousaz, Mrs. Inchbald, miss Burney, or Dr. Moore, she would adopt the name of novel with delight: But so much folly, error, and vice are disseminated in books classed under this denomination, that it is hoped the wish to assume another title will be attributed to feelings that are laudable, and not fastidious.' P. v.

Such is miss Edgeworth's apology for appropriating a new title to this species of writing: yet we cannot consider the apology a good one. Is it at all necessary to discard the title of novel from its own rank and place, because many bad novels are in existence? or would it not be deemed silly in Dr. Moore and Mr. Coxe to have rejected the appellation of *travels* for their publications, because sir John Mandeville's *travels* were filled with lies and extravagances?

Miss Edgeworth has made honourable mention of a De Crousaz, an Inchbald, a Burney, and a Moore. Many other persons might have been added to this list, in whom virtue and talents are eminently conspicuous. There are a far greater number, we are sensible, and we have often lamented it, of whose productions nothing can possibly be said in commendation. But what has this to do with other authors? Their books are to be judged by their own merits, not by the merits of either of these different classes. Let a novelist publish his work under the title that best befits it; and the public will determine where is its proper classification. That much error and folly have been disseminated in novels, is an indisputable truth; but we doubt if it will appear so clearly that vice has been equally disseminated, at least intentionally. Folly and error are frequently arbitrary terms. We call that *error* which dissents from principles received by ourselves as true; and *folly* is an appellation often bestowed on such conduct as agrees not with the particular notions we have formed of wisdom. The precise limits of virtue and vice are, on the contrary, fixed and unalterable; and a writer must have no ordinary share of imprudence who should attempt, unmasked, to confound their distinctions.

Digitized by Google

Novelists in general we must acquit of this charge; and when any of them are hardy enough to lay themselves open to it, they must expect, in a country whose religion is an exemplar of every thing praise-worthy, to meet with just and, we may venture to say, general contempt. But evil intention we should be sorry to affix to the most imperfect novel-writers. We have no doubt that they introduce defective characters, to render them as contemptible as they *know* how; and they do not finally make them happy, till they have made them as penitent as they are *able*. Has not the author of Belinda done the same? We have not frequently met with a personage in whom a portion of vice, far from inconsiderable, is compounded with a greater quantity of folly than in miss Edgeworth's most prominent character—the fashionable lady Delacour.

The heroine of these volumes, miss Belinda Portman, is a young lady of an admirable understanding, and the best regulated frame of mind. Her simple history might have been comprised in almost one hundred pages; and therefore we have, and we think with reason, denominated lady Delacour the most prominent character in the work. Belinda is sent so her ladyship by her match-making aunt, Mrs. Stanhope: she goes from her on a visit to lady Anne Percival; returns to lady Delacour after captivating the heart of a Mr. Vincent; and is in the end married to Clarence Hervey, a gentleman of ten thousand a year. Lady Delacour is introduced to us in the third page, and lady Delacour concludes the history. She is not long together out of the reader's sight in any part of the performance; but the first volume is wholly dedicated to her and her *haut-ton* conversation: in fact, she is the primary planet, and Belinda but a satellite.

Amongst the variety of tribes who inhabit this metropolis, it is not wonderful to find a variety of dialects in use. There is the St. Giles's dialect, and the St. James's dialect, the dialect of the Royal Exchange, and the dialect of Shadwell-dock—each of which is but imperfectly understood by persons of a different classification, and all of which are removed, at nearly the same distance, from the standard language of the learned, and what *we* call the well-bred, part of the nation. When miss Edgeworth wrote her five volumes of moral tales, she wrote them in this language of approved standard, and people of taste and learning were pleased with them. In Belinda she has adopted the dialect of the *ton*; and to those who understand, or affect to like it, we shall leave its panegyric. In our eyes it appears flimsy and impertinent, able by no means to bear that weight of thought which the world knows miss Edgeworth to possess; flying from one subject to another without concluding any; fit only to describe a pig and turkey race, or to display Clarence Hervey's folly, when dressed out in the guise of the countess de Pomenars. In a word, we are sorry to see miss Edgeworth wasting so much of her valuable time, as she must have done, in the company of those from whom she learned it.

The moral intended to be conveyed by this tale is a very useful one—that there is little happiness to be expected from wedlock, without prudence before marriage in the choice of the object; and firmness of mind afterwards, to fulfil with energy and tenderness the various duties arising out of that state. Lady Delacour's want

of the latter of these requisites, and miss Portman's possession of the former, bring them forward as examples of the truth of the doctrine. An author cannot possibly do more service to society than by using every occasion, and trying every method, to bring this theory into practice, and to check that romantic folly of *first love* which daily turns the brain of some young novel-reader. But the matter should be handled with discretion. Miss Edgeworth is sensible that 'the means which are taken to produce certain effects upon the mind may have a tendency directly opposite to what is expected.' Why then does she overstrain the string, and propose a stoic as a pattern? for Belinda is as much a stoic as Zeno. She *can love without passion*, and transfers her affections from Mr. Hervey to Mr. Vincent, and from Mr. Vincent back again to Mr. Hervey, with as much *sang froid* as she would unhang her cloak from one peg and hang it upon another. All the world have agreed that love is a passion; and, when acting on a proper object, love with enthusiasm is the will of God and nature. With love as her stimulus, the tender female flies into the arms of her husband as pure as the sun-beams: divest her of this enthusiasm, and bid her look on marriage with the eye of *reason* only, and she will see sexual intercourse as its immediate consequence. Will this, or will it not, decrease her delicacy?

Upon the whole, miss Edgeworth's literary fame is not benefited by the appearance of Belinda. Novel-writing does not seem to us to be her *fort*; for after all that she can say or wish to the contrary, the world will call Belinda a very novel, and will rank it with the productions of many a writer whose name does not appear in her advertisement.

ART. 42.—*St. Margaret's Cave; or the Nun's Story. An ancient Legend. By Elizabeth Helme.* 4 *Vols.* 12*mo.* 1*l.* 1*s. Boards.* Earle *and* Hemet. 1801.

The young baron Fitzwalter marries Blanch Stanley against his father's consent; and so privately; that the old lord supposes them as living together without the ceremony having been performed.

Blanch dies in child-bed of a daughter; and some time after her death young Fitzwalter is prevailed on to marry Edith Montford, whom his father had designed for his wife from the beginning. She also has a daughter by Fitzwalter, to whom the name of Isabel is given, as was that of Margaret to his daughter by Blanch Stanley. These two children are brought up together till the latter is in her ninth year and the former in her sixth, when Fitzwalter pays the solemn debt of nature. Edith, who believes Margaret to be illegitimate, treats her as such, as does her second husband lord de Launcy; but by the unwearied endeavours of father Austin, her nurse Alice, and a youth named Leopold, she is established in her rights, and gets the estate of Fitzwalter. If the author were asked why, during the seven years that the baron and Edith were married, he did not prove to her the legitimacy of Margaret which he was continually denying, she would be puzzled for an answer; except it were that then her tale would have been ended. Upon the whole, however, the story is artfully, and in many places very affectingly, told, and will procure Mrs. Helme considerable credit among the readers of novels. Friar Austin proves in the end to be count Hoffman in a state of pe-

nance, and in the peasant Leopold is discovered his son;—of course he must marry Margaret, or all had not ended in a wedding. His cousin Ferdinand, too, becomes the husband of Isabel.

ART. 43.—*Dorothea; or, a Ray of the new Light.* 3 *Vols.* 12*mo.* 10*s.* 6*d. sewed.* Robinsons. 1801.

To consider as an innovation every attempt to alter old systems would be madness and superstition in the highest degree. Without a spirit of investigation, although it may be sometimes wrongly exercised, long-established dogmas would continue to be believed, and long-established customs continue to be practised, in spite of the numberless absurdities in which they are enveloped. Modern philosophy has unquestionably done much to enlighten the understanding and to correct the ideas of mankind: but it is no less true that many of its pretended professors have carried certain wild maxims to an extravagant length. To take the needle and the rolling-pin out of the female hand, and to fill it with the fasces and the halbert, would be ridiculous, unless they and the men changed vocations; for somebody must mend stockings, and somebody must make pie-crust. The rights of woman, therefore, have been deservedly laughed at. Our author adds his mite to the ridicule, and in some places not unsuccessfully.

ART. 44.—*The Little Mountaineers of Auvergne; or, the Adventures of James and Georgette. Altered from the French, and adapted to the Perusal of Youth.* 12*mo.* 4*s.* 6*d. sewed.* Vernor *and* Hood. 1801.

This novel is said to be adapted to the perusal of youth; but we see no reason why it may not be perused by such full-grown *babes* as are fond of novel-reading; for it contains as much sense, and a great deal more nature, than is to be found in two-thirds of the books written for their own use and entertainment.

MISCELLANEOUS LIST.

ART. 45.—*Adelphi. A Sketch of the Character, and an Account of the last Illness, of the late Rev. John Cowper, A.M. &c. who finished his Course with Joy, 20th March, 1770. Written by his Brother, the late William Cowper, Esq. of the Inner Temple. Faithfully transcribed from his original Manuscript by John Newton.* 8*vo.* 1*s.* Williams. 1802.

Mr. John Cowper was a respectable worthy clergyman, fellow of a college, but not endued with the rapturous spirit of methodism; of course, when he visited his family, he was not permitted to officiate in family prayer. In September 1769, being in this ungracious state, he was seized with a dangerous illness, from which he recovered a little, but had a relapse on the 16th of February 1770. His brother visited him and prayed by him, but seemingly with little effect; till on Sunday the 10th of March he was blessed, according to the language of the methodists, with a sudden conversion. As he died about ten days afterwards, we have no opportunity of judging what effect this would have had upon his life and manners; but when we recollect the unhappy state of his brother for many years, we are not inclined to believe that this conversion would have been beneficial either to the deceased or the public.

Digitized by Google

ART. 46.—*An authentic Narrative of the Proceedings of his Majesty's Squadron under the Command of Rear-Admiral Sir J. Saumarez, Bart. K. B. from the Period of its sailing from Plymouth to the Conclusion of the Action with the combined Fleets. By an Officer of the Squadron.* 8vo. 1s. Egerton. 1801.

The transactions recorded in this pamphlet are highly honourable to the British navy; and the bravery, discipline, and ardor of our sailors were never more conspicuous than in their victory over an enemy so vastly superior to them in every thing but courage and skill. The Narrative is well written; and should be added, by all those who are fond of naval exploits, to the transactions which have immortalised the names of Howe, Jervis, Nelson, Graves, and Duncan.

ART. 47.—*Imposture exposed, in a few brief Remarks on the Irreligiousness, Profaneness, Indelicacy, Virulence, and Vulgarity of certain Persons who style themselves Anti-Jacobin Reviewers. By Josiah Hard, Esq.* 8vo. 6d. Hurst.

The liberties taken by the Anti-Jacobin Reviewers justly vindicate the change which it is suggested in this pamphlet should be made in their title. The author wishes them to reject only two syllables, *anti*, and asserts that they will then present themselves to the public in their real character—of Jacobins. He asserts, moreover, that the Review is replete with slander and licentiousness; that it makes professions merely of defending the church, whilst it takes a pleasure in pouring out most rancorous abuse upon ecclesiastical dignitaries, that no one 'who has a wife, sister, or daughter in his family would suffer the Anti-Jacobin Review for August, 1801, to lie five minutes upon his table;' that it has been indignantly expelled without a dissentient voice from one of the principal offices under government;' that, in short, 'a summary definition might be given of the principles of these Reviewers, by saying their patriotism consists in abusing Bonaparte; their churchmanship in reviling the methodists; their religion in condemning infidels; and their consistency in always speaking highly of themselves.' These charges we leave to the meditation of the accused; and as the writer refers to places in their Review which justify his censure, the accusation is fairly before the public, which will approve or condemn every Review from its actions, not its professions.

ART. 48.—*Insecto-Theology; or, a Demonstration of the Being and Perfections of God, from a Consideration of the Structure and Economy of Insects. Illustrated with a Copper-Plate. By M. Lesser: with Notes by P. Lyonet.* 8vo. 6s. *Boards.* Cadell *and* Davies.

To wield the argument which derives the beings and perfections of the Deity from the particular consideration of any of his works requires a master's hand. We have seen, not without a secret horror, the most exaggerated commendations of Divine goodness for arrangements never made, and which, had they existed, would have entailed the greatest evils on mankind. Even the present author, who is full of superstition and credulity, adduces, as marks of a benevolent Providence, appearances which were only ideal. Any attempt of this kind should never proceed beyond the most general views; for in going farther we only scan the perfections of the Deity by our own limited and imperfect vision. We have reason to believe that every

thing has been formed for the best purposes, because *it is*. In explaining the final causes, we engage in inextricable labyrinths, without a clue. In other respects this work is a very indifferent one. The facts are trifling, and often mistaken; the reasoning injudicious and inconclusive. Of Lesser we have no account; but the life of the minute and industrious Lyonet is related with minuteness and commendation somewhat too exuberant.

ART. 49.—*A Review of the Principles on which the Clergy are excluded from sitting in the House of Commons; with a few cursory Observations on Residence: In a Letter to a Friend.* 8vo. 1s. 6d. Reynolds. 1801.

This is a calm and temperate discussion of the question on the eligibility of a clergyman to a seat in the house of commons; and as such we recommend it to the very serious perusal of every member of the legislature who in an unguarded moment gave his assent to a bill founded on no maxim of ancient law, and producing apparently an unnecessary innovation on the constitutional mode of representation. It cannot be doubted that the legislative body has the power to exclude; and in the same manner that the lawyers were formerly, and the clergy and every person not having three hundred a-year are now prevented from a seat in the house of commons, a decree might be passed, that no person in the army or navy, no person following the occupation of a farmer, merchant, or shop-keeper, should be eligible to a seat in parliament. But when a bill of exclusion is brought in, a natural curiosity is excited to know the grounds of the proposed exclusion; and when we find, after an inquiry on this question, that a gentleman in orders was not only declared to be eligible, but did actually sit for a considerable time in parliament, without the least particle of objection from any member of the house, and that the new bill arose from the circumstance of a gentleman being elected, who on other accounts was obnoxious to some leading members, we cannot but wish that the advocates for this new exclusion would as calmly investigate the question as the author of the work before us has done, and afford us something, if it were only the shadow of a reason, for this new mode of conduct. The author states correctly the efforts made in the senate and the university of Cambridge to petition parliament against the bill, and which were overthrown by the act of a single individual, who, according to the constitution of that body, has the privilege of putting a *veto* upon every question proposed to the senate; but we are surprised that the members of the university did not, in their private capacity, petition against the measure, and disregard the *veto* of an individual gentleman, who would have been better engaged in following their directions than in imposing an imperious silence on their proceedings.

CORRESPONDENCE.

WE have received the letter of *Leunculus*, but cannot inform him as to the progress of Jani's edition of Horace. Of Wieland's we could have given him a more accurate account.

We have to acknowledge also a letter from Dr. *Monturci*, the contents of which strikingly resemble what he has already written on the subject. Had it reached us before the foregoing strictures were committed to the press, some particulars in it would have been noticed and replied to; but after so long a war of words, on a matter of so little interest, the doctor will pardon us if we decline continuing the controversy—at least, unless called upon as Reviewers of a formal publication.

THE

CRITICAL REVIEW.

MARCH, 1802.

ART. I.—*Historical and Political Memoirs of the Reign of Lewis XVI. from his Marriage to his Death: founded on a Variety of authentic Documents, furnished to the Author, before the Revolution, by many eminent Statesmen and Ministers; and on the secret Papers discovered, after the 10th of August 1792, in the Closets of the King at Versailles and the Tuileries. By John Lewis Soulavie, the elder, &c. Translated from the French. Accompanied with explanatory Tables, and One Hundred and Thirteen Portraits.* 6 *Vols.* 8*vo.* 2*l.* 8*s. Boards.* Robinsons. 1802.

IF there be disadvantages attendant upon writing a history of our own times, and the author find it difficult to extricate himself from those prejudices and partialities in which the world around him is involved, there are also advantages which posterity can never possess. Many of the fleeting facts of the day, which develop in their truest light the characters of the most prominent personages meant to be described, if not seised at the moment of their appearance, will never be seised at all; and the future historian must be content to patch up an imperfect likeness from the broken and unconnected scraps of materials that may accidentally fall into his hands. If he do not present his contemporaries with a caricature, he will often present them with a portraiture which possesses no resemblance whatever—a vapid and inanimate corpse, devoid of interest, energy, or appropriation. The best historians of Greece and Rome are unquestionably those of their own times. Herodotus, Diodorus Siculus, and Livy, are all of them highly valuable compilers; their materials are ample, and for the most part well digested; and they have been industrious in the collection of historical evidence: but they possess not the authority of Xenophon or Cæsar, nor are they perused with an equal degree of impression. The virtue of impartiality is not so difficult of acquirement as it is often conceived to be; and it is, perhaps, one of the prejudices of the present day to contemplate it in such a view. If, in the courts of law, mankind may

Digitized by Google

be thought competent to become judges of the actions of their countrymen, and capable of divesting themselves of partialities in the exercise of their decisions, it is at least possible that an historian may, in like manner, in the retirement of his library, abstract himself from every personal influence, and weigh the mass of evidence before him in an impartial balance. The historian, indeed, who is inspired with the real dignity of his subject, writes less to his contemporaries than to posterity; and cannot but be sensible that the immortality after which he is so laudably panting, must principally accrue from a sound and solid judgement, carefully chastised from every bias and obliquity, and transmitting the light of truth alone upon the pure mirror of his page.

We have been led into these observations from the appearance of the voluminous publication before us, by an author who has heretofore furnished us with nine interesting volumes of French history, under the title of Memoirs of Marshal Richelieu; and is already engaged in a History of the Revolution, which will extend to the termination of the eighteenth century. We mean not, however, to anticipate the favour of the reader by applying these remarks either to the present or any of the collateral Memoirs of M. Soulavie, in this commencement of our strictures. We have merely offered them with a view of removing general prejudices against contemporary histories, and shall now enable him to determine for himself, by a candid analysis of the work before us, and a brief statement of the documents to which the author has had recourse.

'It may be considered,' (observes he), 'in the first place, as a continuation of my labours on the history of the decline of the French monarchy, published in nine volumes, under the title of Memoirs of Marshal Richelieu, which commence at the latter part of the reign of Lewis XV., and end at the accession of Lewis XVI. to the throne. These Memoirs, and those I am now publishing, are the result of indefatigable researches, ever since the year 1778. The most distinguished personages of ancient France have supplied me with the anecdotes and other curious materials, that have gone through two editions in the first of the works. I have frequented persons respectable for their talents and veracity, who were brought up in the court of Lewis XIV.; such as marshal Richelieu, cardinal Luynes, some ancient magistrates and ministers, confidential secretaries, subaltern agents of government, valets-de-chambres to the king, ancient favourites, and ladies of the court. All of them were still able to give clear and particular accounts of the events and persons mentioned in the memoirs of Richelieu. I have preserved from the flames of the revolution the most curious monuments of our modern history, by publishing, before the epoch of our misfortunes, the complete works of the duke of St. Simon, memoirs of Duclos, Massillon, Maurepas, d'Aiguillon, and others connected with the history of Lewis XV.

Digitized by Google

'During the reign of the unfortunate Lewis XVI., I did not discontinue my visits amongst people of the first distinction in the monarchy. Above all, I collected the monuments of the arts. My cabinet contains all the historical engravings of that period, and all that I could possibly find relating to anterior transactions.

'The execution of this project has formed a collection of prints, composed of an hundred and sixty-two volumes in folio, on the history of our nation, from the time of Pharamond to that of Bonaparte; a monument truly national, since it is an history of France written by the imagination of our artists, as well as the history of modern Europe, with which France has ever been connected.

'To this assemblage I have added another no less important, that of printed works, on the reign of Lewis XVI., and on the revolution, which are also in my cabinet. It will hardly be believed that they consist of more than thirty thousand different publications, written by the leaders of factions, or by their disciples and adherents. So that in writing the history of the revolution, we are embarrassed in the choice of materials. We are obliged to confine ourselves to select the writings of the most remarkable personages of each party, as they contain the quintessence of the anarchy of the moment we have to delineate, and also the spirit of opposition which moved the rulers whose contests we must describe.' Vol. i. p. xlii.

'The Memoirs of the Reign of Lewis XVI., which I am publishing, have, therefore, been composed from a valuable source, the papers of the king himself; from depositories to which the queen or ministers never had the least access: and I have availed myself of all the information that could be obtained from prints and books; and from the most distinguished and best-informed persons of that reign, whose situations were most favourable for observation, and with whom I have had frequent conversations since 1778. The work will besides have the merit of being exposed to all the censures of my contemporaries, and to the contradiction of the opposite parties I provoke. This contradiction will bring on explanations and detections, important to the history of our times and country.

'The Memoirs of Marshal Richelieu commence with the 18th century, and end at the death of Lewis XV.

'Those of the Reign of Lewis XVI. begin at the time of his marriage, in 1771, and finish at his death.

'My History of the Revolution, now in the press, begins with the first assembly of the notables, and ends with the 18th century. This is the completion of the task I proposed to myself in 1778.' Vol. i. p. lxxi.

The first chapter is merely introductory; and as the Memoirs before us are a direct continuation of those devoted to the ministry of marshal Richelieu, much of it might have been spared without any loss to the integrity of the general design. It gives a sketch of the intrigues between Austria and France to obtain a supremacy of control amidst the different states of Europe,

Digitized by Google

and the means by which Spain, the perpetual tool of these rival courts, was sometimes the adjunct of the one and sometimes of the other, according to the superior degree of policy which was evinced by the respective ministers for the time being. Henry III. opposed the unbounded ambition of Austria with all his might. The emperor Philip II. had conceived the enormous design of subjugating both England and France, as well as Spain, and of composing for all Europe one grand Christian monarchy. For this purpose, he created what was denominated an armed league, and put himself at the head of it. In the midst of this contention Henry III. was suddenly assassinated by a monk, sent from the bosom of the league; and his successor Henry IV. a few years afterwards, by a villain of the same conspiracy, in conjunction with his own wife the celebrated Mary de' Medici, of Austrian descent,—having previously escaped not less than three times from similar attempts. The Austrian party now appeared to have obtained an unbounded sway at the court of Versailles, more especially as the queen-dowager compelled her son Lewis XIII. to marry an Austrian princess. It was the good fortune of Lewis XIII., however, to be possessed of some of the most profound and able ministers that have ever influenced the politics of Europe. The original plan of Henry IV. was now prosecuted by the renowned Richelieu with the utmost degree of spirit; and the opposition of Mary of Medici was at length silenced by her banishment from the court; in consequence of which she retreated to Austria, and died shortly afterwards of pure chagrin. Mazarin pursued the system of French aggrandisement so successfully advanced by Richelieu; the result of which was, the famous thirty years' war, and the treaty of Westphalia—which gave so much splendor to the reign of Lewis XIV., but which, by wresting from Austria, Alsace and the three bishoprics, and by elevating the French monarch to the high office of protector of the liberties of the Germanic states, threw the control of Europe too largely into the hands of the court of Versailles;—a danger infinitely increased, when, in the course of a few years afterwards, Spain, who had uniformly of late been connected with the house of Austria, was induced, through French intrigues, to dissolve the old family compact, and to receive a king from the line of the Bourbons. Austria continued to decline from this period; and the triple and quadruple alliances, in which England, alarmed at the growing greatness of the French monarchy, appeared so conspicuously, were incapable of aiding her very essentially. The regency and power of the duke of Orléans, who had united himself with the confederates, terminated with the majority of Lewis XV.; the kingdom of Naples was wrested from the emperor in the south; while Frederic of Prussia, perceiving his decline and incapacity of ef-

Digitized by Google

fectual resistance, attacked him at the same time in the north, and seised possession of Silesia. With the justly celebrated Maria Theresa, however, a new æra arose: she was fortunate in the choice of count Kaunitz for her minister, who artfully obtained for his mistress a new alliance with the court of Versailles, and considerably indemnified her for the losses sustained by her ancestors, by compensations in Poland. All the powers of Europe were alarmed at the alliance of the two first monarchies on the continent, and a variety of memorials and coalitions were the consequence. Lewis was at this moment assassinated by Damien; but the blow was not successful. It was truly indeed a regicide age; for in less than three years afterwards the king of Portugal was stabbed through the heart; and very shortly after this event the dauphin and his consort were both poisoned. In France and Portugal these assassinations were for the most part attributed to the Jesuits; and the duke of Choiseul, who bore them an inveterate hatred, left no step unattempted to crush the existence of their society: Voltaire was his chief instrument; and by his own exertions as minister, and the writings of that philosophical wit, he at length succeeded, and their society was abolished in 1762.

The Jesuits, however, could not be the only assassins of the day; for the dauphin was their grand protector, and he himself did not fall till after the suppression of their order. It was generally suspected, and probably with great truth, that the dauphin and his consort both became victims to the diabolical craft of the duke of Choiseul himself, who was detested by the prince, and who was publicly accused of that crime by the general voice of the nation, as well as by his opponents the duke d'Aiguillon and marshal Richelieu. He retained his post notwithstanding, and had art enough to prevail on the old king, who was now become equally decrepit in body and mind, a superstitious religionist and a debauchee, to propose to his grandson the young dauphin, afterwards Lewis XVI., another connexion with Austria, by a marriage with the late unfortunate Marie Antoinette. This bold and decided, but cruel and unprincipled man, who recoiled at nothing that gave a chance of accomplishing his purpose, was at length, however, completely disgraced and banished to Chanteloup, where he employed himself in defaming every branch of the royal family to whom he was indebted for his dignities and support. His ruin was accomplished by a variety of concurring circumstances. The party of the duke d'Aiguillon, his irreconcilable antagonist, left no means unattempted to injure him both in the opinion of the court and the people: the seven years' war, into which he had rashly plunged the nation against England, had been attended with almost uninterrupted disgrace, and the most complete predominance of the English flag upon the ocean; and

Digitized by Google

the sacrifice of the unfortunate Lally, by whose death he had meant to have wiped away all the imputations cast upon his administration, aggravated the general odium against him, and eventually completed his downfall.

As general Lally was the father of a nobleman who exhibited a conspicuous figure in the commencement of the revolution, and as the story of his decapitation is related with no small degree of interest by our author, we shall select it as a favourable specimen of his narrative talents.

'General Lally was a man of quality, who had devoted himself to follow the fortunes of the house of Stuart, expelled from the throne of England. He had chosen France for his new country, and had distinguished himself in the war of 1740 against the English, particularly by breaking into the famous column of the enemy at the battle of Fontenoy. Being sent to India, he was there less fortunate. The French squadron, though superior to the English, abandoned Pondicherry, the most valuable of our possessions. Choiseul's party was humbled by the misfortunes of the war; and it had three motives that required a victim: the first to make it believed abroad that the Irish had betrayed us, and save the honour of our flag; the next to enable the ministry to keep up their haughty tone at home, after the manner of Richelieu; and lastly, to ruin the near relation of general Lally, M. de Saint-Priest, intendant of Languedoc; who, designed by a powerful party for the place of the duke of Choiseul, had the courage not to disown Lally for his relation, to defend him, and to proclaim his innocence.

'The English did not accomplish their views in the death of admiral Byng; and in the case of Lally, the equally senseless official accusation of having betrayed the interests of Lewis XV. met with no better success. The duke of Choiseul, who deceived the king on this occasion, insensibly declined in the good opinion of his master, when this prince, being afterwards better informed, learned that he had been misled by his minister. It was to little purpose the general's condemnation was sanctioned by the forms of justice; the king was sensible of the fault he had committed, in leaving to the authority of the parliament, which he considered only as the tribunal for private disputes among his subjects, a cause of supreme jurisdiction, with which Choiseul had invested it. Thus, by the most strange perversion of ideas, the parliament was charged with the office of sitting in judgment on an affair of state, on a military transaction, of which generals alone were competent to take cognisance; and of a cause of the supreme jurisdiction, in which the parliament could not interfere without overturning all political ideas of a monarchy. M. de Choiseul changed his dear parliament into a committee, subverting on the other hand the moral maxims of the first tribunal of the realm—of a tribunal which, under former ministers, had been the natural and necessary enemy of arbitrary punishments, the enemy of government commissions, and the last asylum of the people of France, when persecuted by the enmity of ministers or courtiers.

Digitized by Google

'All the parts of this strange proceeding were to be traced back to the invisible hand of the duke of Choiseul, who was the director of the whole: it was he who caused a commission to be given to the parliament to inquire into this affair. The metropolis was not inclined to a punishment of this kind, particularly for crimes committed more than two thousand leagues off. It was necessary to rouse the public, and direct against the general all the means of ministers whose power is in danger, or enraged, or in a state of actual intoxication. Lally was accused of having betrayed the interests of the king, and the India company at Pondicherry.

'The five magistrates, who were commissioned to make their report on the cause, declared at first among themselves, after a long examination, that general Lally was innocent. Yet, on the day when their report was finally to be given, two of them condemned him to death, and two others declared him not guilty. It was still in the power of the fifth to have saved him: but wavering between the two opinions, like a man who gropes his way blindfold, now inclining this way, now that, and now turning about, he at last said, to get rid of his doubts—"Let him die, that at any rate we may make an end of our business."

'In the parliament Lally had the warmest partisans of the duke of Choiseul against him, and they went so far as to propose, that he should be condemned to the wheel. "If you really intend he should die," observed one of the most cunning, "sentence him to some other kind of death, for this the king will never be brought to suffer." Lally was condemned to be beheaded, for having betrayed the interests of the king and the India company. "The nation requires an example," said the judges; "and not finding facts to lay before the public, it is upon the whole taken together we have condemned him." They had eluded the military testimonies of the Crillons and Montmorencys, who were the general's companions in India, and who listened to the depositions of Lally's groom and cook, who were offended with a master that had treated them with austerity.

'The animosity of the judges against the general was so great, that one of them went to the king, to request him not to grant Lally a pardon. Among his numerous relations in France, mademoiselle Dillon alone had the courage to write to the king, requesting him to hear MM. de Montmorency and de Crillon, occular witnesses of the courage and zeal of the unfortunate Lally. The king, governed and watched by the duke of Choiseul, was inflexible. Madame de la Heuse went and threw herself at his feet, supplicating his pardon: but the king was not to be prevailed upon, the duke of Choiseul never ceasing to beset him at Choisy.

'On the day of execution this minister shut up every avenue, to prevent the repentance of a king whom he mistrusted. In the mean time the hour of his death was hastened at Paris: the general was thrust into the first cart; and that he might not acquaint the people with the nature of his case, the executioner put a gag into his mouth by order of Pasquier. Consternation and affright spread through the capital: examples of such cruelty were to be found only in the annals of Rome brutalised under Nero.

Digitized by Google

'When general Lally arrived at the place of execution, he began to offer up his prayers. Before he had finished, the hangman made a stroke at him, which was ineffectual; on which three others laid hold of him and sawed off his head.

'The son of general Lally, then at college, was informed, at the very instant only of the tragical scene, who was the author of his days: he flies from his tutors to pay his first and last homage to his parent, presses through the crowd, and finds nothing but his blood. At this news, the rage of the duke of Choiseul and of the parliament revived. The boy was sent abroad, and the proofs of his birth were destroyed.' Vol. i. p. 46.

Choiseul was succeeded by his rival, who had formerly also been banished from court, and confined to the army, because his uncle the marshal Richelieu wanted his mistress for the king. The leading feature in these antagonist administrations consists in this circumstance, that it was the perpetual object of the duke of Choiseul to unite the great states, and enable them to enlarge their boundaries at the expense of the weak; while the duke d'Aiguillon assisted the weaker states, in conformity with the celebrated maxim of the dauphin, father of Lewis XVI., so politically sage in itself, and upon which the present chief consul has so invariably acted—*assist and protect the weak—humble the strong*. It was the perpetual object of the former, moreover, to advance the interests of Austria, and preserve the peace of Europe by a strict alliance between the courts of Versailles and Vienna; while the latter evinced an implacable jealousy against the Austrian family, and sought for the safety and aggrandisement of his country by humiliating it in every possible manner. As to the rest, there does not appear to have been any great degree of difference between them; and in point of moral virtue no twins could be more on a par. We have read much of the profligacy of the court of St. James's under the Stuarts; but perhaps nothing in history can equal the bare-faced debauchery, corruption of manners, and indulgence in every species of low and lascivious gratification, which prevailed at the court of Versailles during the administration of these men; and the temptations which were offered by them to seduce and dæmonise the mind of the dauphin, afterwards Lewis XVI., and his unfortunate consort Marie Antoinette. As the chief seeds of the revolution were sown at this period, we must not close our account without being more explicit.

While Choiseul held the reins of government, he was, as we have already observed, strongly opposed by d'Aiguillon; and when d'Aiguillon at length displaced him, Choiseul still retained a party sufficiently large to keep the court and the nation in a state of perpetual chaos. The king was, excepting by acts of occasional interference, a mere cipher in political concerns; his ministers, whoever happened to be in office, found it their interest to gratify his libidinous inclinations; and he who could procure for

Digitized by Google

him the most beautiful and lascivious woman was sure to possess the greatest portion of the royal favour. The new mistress was the real prime-minister; she was systematically initiated by her employers into the plans they intended to execute; and it was expressly stipulated between them, that she should leave no effort unattempted, in her moments of most captivating dalliance, to obtain these ends. The different courts of Europe beheld the distracted and voluptuous state of public affairs at Versailles; and Austria, Russia, Prussia, and occasionally England, all had their separate emissaries and factions, supported by an enormous expense, and infinitely augmenting the profligacy and corruption of the day. Every one was to be hired by every one: the king purchased his pleasures by stipulations with his mistresses; his mistresses their rank in life (several of them, as madame Dubarry for example, from work-houses and common brothels) by compacts with the ministers; the ministers their respective factions and reciprocal triumphs by the bribery of foreign powers. The church was as corrupt and as much brutalised as the court. The Jesuits were at perpetual war with the Jansenists, the Jansenists with the Molinists. The king, whose superstition and timidity of mind, joined to a consciousness of the depravity of his conduct, made him as much a religionist as he was a debauchee, was almost the only one in higher life who made any professions of public devotion whatever. On this point our author is entitled to peculiar credit, as well from his personal knowledge of the facts he enumerates, as from his known attachment to the old *régime* and the religion of his country. We shall therefore introduce his own words.

'Towards the end of the reign of Lewis XV., opinions favourable to religion were nearly confined to the king, and a weak party at court. The attendance on public worship was left to tradesmen and the lower classes of the people. Those persons of fashion who did not turn religion into ridicule confined themselves to three ways of showing their adherence to it, and that only from a remainder of respect which diminished daily. On Sundays, they went from home, and paid their visits, to avoid an attendance on the celebration of mass: hence they were thought to have been present at that ceremony. The time restricted for the Easter communion they every year divided into two portions; the former of which they passed at Paris, and the latter in the country. By this means they bewildered those who were on the watch, from the curiosity of discovering whether the Easter communion was received by them or not. Finally, in cases of death-bed sickness, the husband or wife, who was to be the survivor, kept the confessor at a distance. There were objections to the vicar's being let into the secrets of the dying party, who, most commonly, had been faithless to the marriage vows, in an age during which a strict adherence to moral duties was considered in no other light than as a matter of jest. The children, the relations, the husband, or the wife, concealed the danger of the sick party from the priest, or sent for a confessor when it was too late.

Digitized by Google

'Except in the above predicaments, I hardly ever saw persons in high life, before the revolution, give proofs of any attachment to the cause of religion; unless, perhaps, a few old men, or, more commonly, aged female devotees, living retired from court, and in the habits of frequenting the church of St. Sulpice, that being the parish-church resorted to by persons of distinction.' Vol. i. p. 195.

Amidst this general destruction of all the sober and dignified principles of civil society, this equal corruption and dissipation of the church and state, it cannot seem very surprising that wits and superficial philosophers should attack the establishments which were thus egregiously perverted, and in many instances express doubts of the truth or propriety of the principles upon which they were founded. Frederic of Prussia, who had a deep game to play, and in his plans of aggrandisement found it difficult to keep Russia and Austria in a state of quiescence by his own personal exertions, saw plainly that the sect of wits and philosophists might be of essential service to him, by so far augmenting the involved politics of France as to render the ministers of that country incapable of adding to his difficulties. Some of them he therefore complimented with the most adulatory professions of friendship; others he took into actual pay; and over the whole he obtained a vast ascendency, by pretending to enter into all their infidelities and absurdities. The philosophers were therefore duped in their turn: they were in reality the mere tools of Frederic, and afterwards of Catharine of Russia, while they thought themselves the only independent men in the world. The higher dignitaries of the church began at length, however, to tremble for their offices: it was necessary, on their own account, to stay the torrent of infidel publications; and a remonstrance was presented to the king, 'through the medium,' says our author, 'of a prelate *who did* NOT *believe even in the existence of a God*—M. Loménie, archbishop of Toulouse,' in favour of the Gospel, and the intolerant edicts of 1542, 1547, and 1551! 'Your majesty is too well apprised,' observe these pious petitioners, 'of the advantages which religion confers on nations, and, above all, of the powerful support it yields to the authority of kings; not to consider impiety, which endeavours to annihilate that support, as the greatest scourge that can afflict your reign.—We are on the eve of the fatal moment when the press will overturn the church and the state.'

After the very able observations of M. Mounier on the influence of the philosophers in accomplishing the revolution, of which an account was given in our last number, we cannot avoid thinking that our author attributes too much to the operation of this fanciful and absurd junto. He unites, however, with the author of the Millennium, in opposition to the abbé Barruel and the bishop of Rochester, in confining their technical phrases—'religion of infamy,' 'crush the infamous system' (*écrasez*

Digitized by Google

l'infame)—to the religion and the religious system of the Gallican church alone, or, at most, to the Roman-catholic faith.

'During a space of fifteen years, the king of Prussia, Catharine II, Voltaire, d'Alembert, Diderot, and Condorcet, invariably distinguished *the Roman-catholic religion* by the appellation of "the religion of infamy." Voltaire and d'Alembert ended all their letters by the following abbreviations, ECR. L'INF., which for a long time alarmed and puzzled the police-officers by whom their letters were opened.' Vol. i. p. 193.

'This religion of infamy was that of *the Gallican church*, of which the dignitaries composed the first order of a state, still formidable to all the potentates of Europe—an order which formed one of the three foundations of a government, which the philosophy of Frederic, of Catharine II. of Voltaire, and Diderot, was endeavouring to overturn.' Vol. i. p. 194.

Thus limited, there certainly was no impropriety in the term; for never could there be a more *infamous religion* under the sun.

On May 10, 1774, the besotted, lascivious, and superstitious Lewis XV. closed his iniquitous career; his body being, for several days prior to his decease, one uniform mass of putrid sores, exhaling the most intolerable stench, and his mind agonised with all the recollection of his abominable misdeeds. The solemnity of the scene, however, was not sufficient to diminish the animosity of the different factions by which the dying monarch was surrounded. D'Aiguillon, Richelieu, Fronsac, all the Molinists, and the friends of madame Dubarry, were strenuous against his confession and participation of the sacraments: the adherents of Choiseul, and of Beaumont archbishop of Paris, pressed him however so strenuously to the point, and exhibited so superior a degree of circumvention to their opponents, that they at length prevailed; and the hoary lecher, withdrawing his putrid hands from the bosom of madame Dubarry, took his leave of her for ever with the following address.

"My dear, I have the small-pox, and my situation is very critical, on account of my age, and *other distempers:* I must not forget that I am the most Christian king, and the oldest son of the church: I am in my sixty-fourth year; in a very short time, perhaps, we must be separated for ever. I wish to guard against a scene similar to that which took place at Metz: tell the duke of Aiguillon what I say to you, that, should my disorder increase, he may concur with you in such measures as may enable us to part without scandal and publicity." Vol. i. p. 144.

'Lewis XV. at his death, bequeathed to the French monarchy a number of legacies, which, after the lapse of eighteen years, were doomed to overturn and destroy it to its very foundation.

'When the daughter of Maria Theresa became queen of France,

Digitized by Google

she sowed the seeds of dissension in the Bourbon family. Fatal animosities were soon to take place between her and the children of Lewis XV., his two sisters-in-law, and the grandees who were employed about her person.

'The count d'Artois already led so licentious a life as to draw on himself, before his misfortunes, the contempt of every Frenchman who had still any regard for decency and public decorum.

'With regard to the administration of affairs, the king had left it in the hands of the most profligate men. The duke of Vrillière was one of its oldest contemptible members. Bertin still remained in power, whose office it had been to superintend the haram, called the *parc aux cerfs*, and the filthy debaucheries of the king. A national and irrecoverable bankruptcy had rendered the abbé Terray an object of general execration; whilst the arbitrary measures of the duke of Aiguillon and of Maupeou had excited all those against the royal authority who were weary of the absolute and military power of the French kings; and even all the advocates for despotic sway; because the king had exceeded all bounds, by degrading the kingdom in the eyes of his subjects, and still more in those of foreign powers. The nation was unanimous in its wish for a change in administration.

'The taxes were raised to such a pitch, that several of the provinces were unable to pay their assistants. Many peasants of the Limosin, of the Sevennes, the Pyrénées, and of Dauphiny—provinces naturally barren, and presenting many obstacles to cultivation—relinquished the lands of their forefathers, finding their crops inadequate to the amount of ruinous taxation.

'With regard to the expenditure, such was the profusion of the court, that, without a radical and extensive reform of this branch of finance—a reform of which the court was incapable—the kingdom was in danger of a general bankruptcy, and of a revolution.

The magistracy, distinguished by the appellation of *Maupeou's parliament*, had no stability. It was assailed on all sides by the Choiseul faction, ever bold and artful in its modes of attack and defence. The Jansenists lamented their dissolved and exiled parliaments; nor were their tears or their intrigues without effect; whilst the Jesuits and their partisans deplored, in their turn, their last dissolution. In this manner, all was complaint and lamentation in two opposite parties.

'The nation had before this been disturbed by two powerful rival factions, which had made war against each other. Now they conjointly made war on the state—a dangerous circumstance, the forerunner of the dissolution of social order, which takes place when governments, in a state of distress, or of blindness, are in want of one of the parties, to take its share of hatred and resistance, of attachment and defence. The unjust and glaring persecution sustained by the magistracy rendered it respectable, and attracted the pity of many.

'Every thing bore the appearance of relaxed authority in all the other departments of state. The navy, which had been nearly annihilated in the last war with the English, was not rebuilt. Great-Britain had disgraced France by a treaty worthy of the times of Charles VI.

Digitized by Google

'The army was no better attended to than the navy: mere courtiers were at the head of it, in whose conduct impartial judges could discover nothing but proofs of general ignorance, of want of skill in military operations, and shameful defeats in the war of seven years. Among five hundred officers of superior rank, all old enough to command, France could not reckon twelve capable of supporting the long-established reputation of our troops, and worthy of being named as military characters.' Vol. i. P. 182.

Such were the unpropitious circumstances under which Lewis XVI. commenced his reign. The government was already in a revolutionary state; and, by an unexampled series of evils, many of which it was not in his power to have prevented, but many of which also owed their entire origin to his own inactivity and want of resolution, the ultimate blow was at length accomplished, and he fell a victim to the severity of his fate. For many years after his marriage with the archduchess Marie Antoinette, and prior to his elevation to the throne, himself however, and his royal consort, were equally and most deservedly the idols of all France. Modest and exemplary amidst the debauchery of the court, they led a life of retirement, visiting the cottages of the poor, and exercising with emulation acts of beneficence and humanity. Even for some time after their accession to the throne they preserved a very large proportion of popular attachment, and exhibited the same amiability of character. The queen, however, upon the death of M. de Maurepas, who had never suffered her to interfere with affairs of state, was determined to become a politician; and this determination pushed her to a greater extent still; when, by the birth of the elder dauphin, she began to feel an additional right of interference, and seemed to be actuated by all the ambition of her ancestor Maria Theresa. She plunged into the muddy gulf; the purity of her mind was contaminated;—like the statesmen around her, she was compelled to dissemble, to cajole, to humiliate herself, in order to increase her own party, which was generally that in opposition to the minister of the king's appointment: she became open to flattery in her own turn; her character declined gradually in the estimation of the multitude who had before been accustomed to caress her; and, in proportion as she grew despised, she endeavoured to support herself by additional haughtiness and contempt for all popular opinion.

M. Soulavie divides the reign of Lewis XVI. into ten epochs. The first embraces the administration of count Maurepas, from his recall upon the death of Lewis XV. The second commences with the re-establishment of the parliaments, by the advice of this favourite—more perhaps with a view of demonstrating his opposition to the system of the late ministers, La Vrillière and Maupeou, than from any real expectation of benefit to be derived from their exertions, although he scarcely perceived the

Digitized by Google

assault he was thus giving to the very vitals of the monarchy. The third epoch embraces the administrations of Turgot and Malesherbes, who had imbibed all the wildness of modern philosophy, and acted upon what was absurdly called the system of perfectibility. The financial administration of M. Necker forms the fourth epoch, during which France was distracted with antagonist calculations, and became an actual bankrupt in the midst of the most splendid theories for her freedom from debt. The fifth epoch embraces the events of the American war, which embodied the speculations of the philosophers, and gave them the power and activity of which they could otherwise never have been possessed. The sixth epoch commences with the birth of the first dauphin, and the influence of the queen in affairs of state, upon which we have commented already. The administration of Calonne and the *notables* comprises the seventh epoch. The second administration of M. Necker forms the eighth, who, by changing at this time the minority into the majority, overthrew the monarchy most effectually. The ninth epoch embraces the constitutional monarchy, as it was called; and the tenth, the creation of the republic and the death of the king.

Such is the outline of the work before us. The materials of the author are ample, and for the most part, we believe, unquestionably authentic. On his talents as an historian we shall offer some additional remarks, in conjunction with some additional extracts from the present Memoirs, in a future number.

ART. II.—*The Poetical Works of John Milton. With the principal Notes of various Commentators. To which are added Illustrations, with some Account of the Life of Milton. By the Rev. Henry John Todd, M. A.* 6 *Vols.* 8vo. 2*l.* 14*s.* *Boards.* Robinsons. 1801.

AN elaborate edition of Milton has long been among the *desiderata* of English literature. By the separate publication of Comus, the present editor had proved himself equal to the task, and he was in consequence 'invited and encouraged' to the undertaking. The volumes contain a copious selection from former commentators.

'The chief purpose of the new notes, is, in humble imitation of Mr. Warton, "to explain the allusions of Milton; to illustrate or to vindicate his beauties; to point out his imitations, both of others and of himself; to elucidate his obsolete diction; and, by the adduction and juxta-position of parallels universally gleaned both from his poetry and prose, to ascertain his favourite words, and to show the peculiarities of his phraseology." Mr. Warton justly adds, that, "among the English poets, those readers who trust to preceding

commentators will be led to believe that Milton imitated Spenser and Shakspeare only. But his style, expression, and more extensive combinations of diction, together with many of his thoughts, are also to be traced in other English poets, who were either contemporaries or predecessors, and of whom many are now not commonly known. Nor have his imitations from Spenser and Shakspeare been hitherto sufficiently noted." Of this it has been a part of the present editor's task, as it was of Mr. Warton, to produce proofs. The coincidences of "Fancy's sweetest children," Spenser, Shakspeare, and Milton, are accordingly here enlarged. The obligations of our author to Dante, hitherto little noticed, as well as to some other Italian poets, are pointed out. The poet's imitations of himself are also considerably augmented. Nor have the romances and fabulous narratives, on which the poetry of Milton is often founded, been neglected. The editor, while he has not been sparing of classical illustration, has constantly kept in mind the necessity of attention to the literature of Milton's age. Without this attention, as Mr. Warton remarks, "the force of many strikingly poetical passages has been weakened or unperceived, because their origin was unknown, unexplored, or misunderstood. Coëval books, which might clear such references, were therefore to be consulted; and a new line of commentary was to be pursued. Comparatively, the classical annotator has here but little to do. Dr. Newton, an excellent scholar, was unacquainted with the treasures of the Gothic library. From his more solid and rational studies, he never deviated into this idle track of reading." But as Milton, at least in his early poems, may be reckoned an old English poet; and as, in his later poetry, allusions to the sources of fiction, with which he had been pleased in his youth, often appear; he generally requires that illustration, however trifling it may seem to fastidious readers, without which no English poet can well be illustrated.' Vol. i. *Preface.*

'He has endeavoured to render the text as perspicuous as possible; not only by several illustrations of antiquated words,—which, as Mr. Warton has observed, in a succession of editions had been gradually and silently, yet perhaps not always properly, refined,—but also by comparing the copies published under the immediate inspection of Milton, as well as most subsequent editions; more particularly those of Tickell, Fenton, Bentley, and the later editors; as the notes will show.' Vol. i. *Preface.*

'To the punctuation also, of which Milton has been pronounced by Mr. Warton to have been habitually careless, great attention has been paid. The editor conceived it his duty likewise to examine the manuscript, containing many of Milton's early poems, preserved in the library of Trinity college, Cambridge; and he found, on examination, several particularities which had been omitted by those who had before collated the manuscript, and which were too curious not to be noticed in the present edition. To the end of the several poems, of which there are copies in the manuscript, these various readings are annexed. The reason is assigned.

Digitized by Google

'The editor offers, with the utmost deference, some account of the life of Milton; of which the materials have been drawn from authentic sources. In this biographical attempt, some new anecdotes, relating to the history of Milton's friends, of his works, and of his times, will also be found. These may perhaps plead as an apology for the rashness of the editor, in affecting to sketch the poet whom the masterly hands of a Johnson and an Hayley have depicted—a rashness to which he has been impelled by the persuasion of others, that, to a new edition of his works, it is a custom to prefix the life of the author.

'Such are the materials here accumulated, in order to explain the labours of Milton—of Milton, the proud boast of his own country, and the admiration of the world—of Milton, whose imitations of others are so generally adorned with new modes of sentiment or phraseology, that they lose the nature of borrowings, and display the skill and originality of a perfect master; and from whom succeeding poets, at various periods, have "stolen authentic fire."

'From the liberal and candid reader the editor hopes to meet with more than pardon—having spared neither pains nor cost in the prosecution of his design, and having strenuously exerted his humble abilities to please and to inform.' Vol. i. *Preface.*

In writing the life of Milton, Mr. Todd has adopted the only prudent plan that remained for him after Johnson and Hayley. He has made it a work of research; and in so doing he has brought forward some curious facts that had hitherto escaped notice. It appears that Milton's Tractates of Divorce, though in his own time *seldom pored on*, gave rise to a small sect who were called Divorcers, and even Miltonists. Some light Mr. Todd has thrown upon the intrigues of the papists in this country during the struggle between the parliament and the king. He also gives us two little poems surmised to be the productions of this unrivaled bard, upon the following grounds.

'As Milton is believed to have continued his friendship for Henry Lawes, the musician, throughout the rebellion, I am led to think that he now often experienced a pleasing relaxation from business and study in listening to the "soft pipe and smooth-dittied song" of his early acquaintance. Lawes, who was acquainted with the principal poets of his time, and was honoured with many of their productions for the use of his lyre, had now published two *Books of Ayres;* in the latter of which, dated 1655, is a ballad, which "the Table, with the names of those who were the authors of the verses," ascribes to "Mr. I. M. p. 37." The ballad consists of the first and last sextains of a little poem which had appeared not long before in an edition of Shakspeare's poems; at the end of which is "an Addition of some excellent Poems, to those precedent of renowned Shakspeare, *by other Gentlemen*;" but these verses are without any signature, while Milton's epitaph on Shakspeare in the same volume is subscribed I. M. It may not perhaps seem improbable, that Milton might formerly have acknowledged to Lawes this production of his earlier days, which yet he had not thought worthy of ad-

Digitized by Google

mission into his collection of poems. The little poem shows at least a remarkable familiarity with Sylvester's *Du Bartas;* a book in which Milton was assuredly conversant. I submit the verses, with deference, to the determination of the reader.

"*Lavinia walking in a frosty morning.*

"I' the non-age of a winter's day,
Lavinia, glorious as May,
To give the morn an earlier birth,
Paced a mile of crusted earth,
When each place, by which she came,
From her veines conceiv'd a flame.
The amorous plants began to strive,
Which should first be sensitive;
Every *hoary-headed twigge*
Dropp'd his snowy perriwigge,
And each bough his icy beard:
On either side his walkes were heard
Whispers of decrepit wood,
Calling to their rootes for blood:
The gentle soyle did mildely greete
The welcome kisses of her feete;
And, to retaine such a treasure,
Like wax dissolving, took her measure.
Lavinia stood amaz'd to see
Things of yearly certaintie
Thus to rebell against their season;
And, though a stranger to the reason,
Back retiring quench'd their heate,
And Winter tooke his former seate." Vol. i. p. lxxxix.

The other poem more resembles the language of our great poet.

'Before I quit the subject of the first appearance of Paradise Lost, I must notice a communication made to the public not long since by a gentleman possessing the original edition of the following lines; apparently written by a female on two leaves prefixed to the title-page of his copy, and subscribed at the bottom with this singular remark: "*Dictated by J. M.*" The communicator observes, that the daughter of Milton officiated as his amanuensis; and that, from the remark already mentioned, there is some reason to attribute the lines to the author of Paradise Lost. Different female hands, it may be added, appear in the manuscript of Milton, preserved in Trinity college, Cambridge. However, the bondage of rhyme will probably incline some readers to doubt the authenticity of these lines; while several striking sentiments and expressions, and the frequent flow of the verses into each other, may perhaps occasion some also to think them genuine, and that the great poet might have chosen, as an amusement, to employ once more the "jingling sound of like endings." The subject also had been a favourite theme of Milton.

Digitized by Google

'*On Day-Break.*

" Welcome, bright chorister, to our hemisphere;
Thy glad approaches tell us Day is near.
See! how his early dawn creeps o'er yon hill,
And with his grey-ey'd light begins to fill
The silent air, driving far from our sight
The starry regiment of frighted Night;
Whose pale-fac'd regent, Cynthia, paler grows,
To see herself pursued by conquering foes;
Yet daring stays behind, to guard the rear
Of her black armies, whither without fear
They may retreat, till her alternate course
Bring her about again with rallied force.
Hark! how the lion's terrour loud proclaims
The gladsome tidings of day's gentle beams,
And, long-kept silence breaking, rudely wakes
The feather'd train, which soon their concert makes,
And with unmeasur'd notes, unnumber'd lays,
Do joyfully salute the lightsome rays.
But hearken yonder, where the louder voice
Of some keen hunter's horn hath once or twice
Recheated out its blast, which seems to drill
Th' opposing air, and with its echo fill.
Thither let's hie; and see the toilsome hound,
Willing, pursue his labour, till he has found
Some hope of what he follows, then with fresht
And pleasing clamour tells it to the rest.

" O Thou, who sometimes by most sacred voice
Father of Light wert styl'd! let my free choice
(Though all my works be evil, seldom right,)
Shun loving darkness rather than the light.
Let thy essential brightness, with quick glance,
Dart through the foggy mist of ignorance
Into the darken'd intellect, and thence
Dispel whatever clouds o'erspread the sense;
Till, with illumin'd eyes, the mind
All the dark corners in itself can find,
And fill them all with radiant light, which may
Convert my gloomy night to sun-shine day.
Though dark, O God! if guarded by thy might,
I see with intellectual eyes; the night
To me a noon-tide blaze, illumin'd by
The glorious splendour of thy majesty." Vol. i. P. cxix.

The Nuncupative Will of Milton is next in order, as edited and annotated by Warton. This is followed by a list of 'such editions of Milton's poetical works as have hitherto been met with by the editor of these volumes,' of the translations and alterations, and of detached pieces of criticism relating to Milton, his editors, &c. The Prolegomena follow, succeeded by the first Commendatory Verses on Milton; then in order, Addi-

Digitized by Google

son's Criticism on the Paradise Lost, and Dr. Johnson's Remarks on Milton's Versification. This last in particular is ably commented upon by the editor. An Inquiry into the Origin of Paradise Lost concludes the first volume. An Analysis of Andreini's Tragedy, by Mr. Hayley, is given.

'But, if the *Adamo* be examined with the utmost nicety, Milton will be found no servile copyist: he will be found, as in numberless instances of his extensive, his curious, and careful reading, to have improved the slightest hints into the finest descriptions. Milton indeed, with the skill and grace of an Apelles or a Phidias, has often animated the rude sketch and the shapeless block. I mean not to detract from the Italian drama; but let it here be remarked once for all in Milton's own words, that "*borrowing*, if it be *not bettered* by the borrower, among good authors is accounted *plagiarie*." Let the bitterest enemies of Milton prove, if they can, whether the author of this ingenuous remark may be exhibited in such a light; rather let them acknowledge that, in fully comparing him with those authors who have written on similar subjects, he must ever be considered as

——————— "above the rest
In shape and gesture proudly eminent." Vol. i. p. 251.

The Italian tragedy mentioned by Dr. Pearce has not been discovered. The Locustæ of Phineas Fletcher is next noticed. From this poem an extract is given of considerable merit. A passage is inserted from the Letters of Mr. Robert Gray, wherein it is said that an Irish baron at Dusseldorf was, about ten years since, employed in translating into English verse a Latin poem, entitled The Christiad, written by Robert Clarke, a Carthusian monk, of the convent of Nieuport near Ostend. From this the translator asserted that Milton had borrowed largely; and Mr. Gray says that it contains many ideas and descriptions strikingly similar to parts of the Paradise Lost. But the copy from which the baron was translating was printed in 1678, eleven years after the first publication of Milton's poem. Mr. Hayley's analysis of another Italian drama follows, the Adam and Eve of Troilo Lancetta. Three other Italian poems are briefly noticed—the Angeleïda of Erasmo di Valvasone, the Strage de gli Innocenti of Marino, and Le Sette Giornate del Mondo Creato of Tasso. There is another Italian poem upon the Seven Days of Creation, and a Spanish one also entitled La Divina Semana, both which have escaped Mr. Todd's notice. Sylvester is last mentioned. The editor concludes his inquiry thus:—

'I have thus brought together opinions, delivered at different periods, respecting the *Origin of Paradise Lost*; and have humbly endeavoured to trace, in part, the reading of the great poet, subservient to his plan. More successful discoveries will probably arise

Digitized by Google

from the pursuits of those, who are devoted to patient and liberal investigation. "Videlicet hoc illud est præcipuè studiorum genus, quod vigiliis augescat; ut cui subinde ceu fluminibus ex decursu, sic accedit ex lectione minutatim quo fiat uberius." To such persons may be recommended the masterly observations of him, who was once so far imposed upon as to believe Lauder an honest man, and Milton a plagiary; but who expressed, when "Douglas and Truth appeared," the strongest indignation against the envious impostor: for they are observations resulting from a wish not to depreciate, but zealously to praise the Paradise Lost. "Among the *inquiries*, to which this ardor of criticism has naturally given occasion, none is more obscure in itself, or more worthy of rational curiosity, than a retrospect of the progress of this mighty genius *in the construction of his work*; a view of the fabric gradually rising, perhaps, from small beginnings, till its foundation rests in the centre, and its turrets sparkle in the skies; to trace back the structure through all its varieties to the simplicity of its first plan; to find what was first projected, whence the scheme was taken, how it was improved, by what assistance it was executed, and from what stores the materials were collected; whether its founder dug them from the quarries of Nature, or demolished other buildings to embellish his own." I may venture to add, that in such inquiries patience will be invigorated rather than dispirited; and every new discovery will teach us more and more to admire the genius, the erudition, and the memory of the inimitable Milton.' Vol. i. p. 302.

Paradise Lost fills the second and third volumes. The notes are very numerous. At an early period of modern literature the practice of laboriously commenting was transferred from the divines and schoolmen to the vernacular poets. A few lines of text were hardly seen in the middle or in the margin of a crowded page. 'Each dog must have his day!' The fame of the commentator for a time sometimes equaled or excelled that of the author. The patient and persevering dullness of these men is scarcely credible; and their inanity and impertinence is often little less marvelous. In a poem of Juan de Mena, king Juan the second is mentioned. 'King Juan the second' (says the commentator)—'so called to distinguish him from king Juan the first.' These writers were men who by no other means could gratify their craving after celebrity. Vanity had urged them to the toil of acquiring learning, which they possessed no genius to direct. They would fix upon some favorite poet, and then stick like barnacles to the hulk of the vessel, that they might 'pursue the triumph and partake the gale.' Their admiration for the author was only shown in an ostentatious display of their own knowledge, as pagans and papists hang the clumsy figures of their own limbs around the idol whom they worship, or as schoolboys and clowns deface the monument that they admire by cutting upon it their names.

Digitized by Google

This folly was never naturalised in England. The business of our commentators has been to illustrate and explain their author. This has been ably executed by the various editors of Shakspeare, and of his contemporary dramatists, who, though eclipsed by him, are indeed stars of the first magnitude. Of posterior writers only Pope had been thus distinguished, till the publication of the present work. There is little in Milton that requires elucidation; he has lived too near our own days to be difficult or obsolete. But it is a task neither uninteresting nor unimportant to follow our great poet through his various studies—to trace him from Shakspeare and Spencer to Sylvester—to see how from the orange-grove and the weed by the way-side the bee collects the honey. Mr. Todd has judiciously selected the *variorum* notes; his own are numerous and valuable, and discover a more extensive acquaintance with English and Italian poetry than any of the former editors, except Warton, possessed. The Appendix to Paradise Lost contains plans of similar subjects intended for tragedies by Milton, from his own manuscript in Trinity college Cambridge.

(To be continued.)

ART. III.—*General View of the Agriculture of the County of Lincoln; drawn up for the Consideration of the Board of Agriculture and Internal Improvement. By the Secretary to the Board.* 8vo. 9*s. sewed.* Nicol.

ART. IV.—*A Review of the corrected Agricultural Survey of Lincolnshire, by Arthur Young, Esq. published in* 1799, *by Authority of the Board of Agriculture; together with an Address to the Board, a Letter to its Secretary, and Remarks on the recent Publication of John Lord Somerville, and on the Subject of Inclosures. By Thomas Stone.* 8vo. 8*s. Boards.* Cawthorn.

IN pursuing our account of the Agricultural Survey of this county, we are led into the unpleasing paths of controversy—a controversy, however, which we shall not follow at any great length, as it would not generally be interesting, and would detain us too long from many works of value which claim our attention. In the agricultural surveys of different counties, Lincolnshire was allotted by the Board to Mr. Stone—a gentleman whose labours as a surveyor and steward we have often had occasion to examine, and who has commonly merited our warm commendations. The value of his survey we cannot estimate: it certainly was disapproved of; and Mr. Young

Digitized by Google

was sent into the county with directions to examine it anew. The latter remained in Lincolnshire three months, and speaks with great warmth of his favorable and polite reception. It is certain, indeed, that he had Mr. Stone's former report, with additions by many of those gentlemen among whom it was circulated; or we should have wondered how it was possible to have collected a body of facts, in general so extensive and interesting, in this short period. On the other hand, Mr. Stone has some reason to complain that *his* survey was rejected without the imputation of any error; and we can scarcely suppose a man generally intelligent, and who seems to have lived in the county he was employed to survey, guilty of any material error. This conduct of the Board has drawn from the latter gentleman a critique on Mr. Young's work, in which, as was natural, he has magnified little errors, and caught at those trifling inaccuracies which must have arisen from the secretary's short stay, and his residence at only one period of the year. Indeed, in his eagerness to blame, Mr. Stone has in two or three instances adduced inconsistencies, which, in the same, or the following sentence, are corrected. Thus Mr. Young says, that after the drainage of the Witham the lowlands were more aguish than before; but he adds, when the drainage was *completed*, they were less so. This may be easily explained; for, while the land was draining, a tract of country, formerly under water, was in part uncovered: when the drainage was completed, the whole was dry. This however is objected to, as an inconsistency. A great portion of Mr. Stone's work also is employed in stating differences of opinion between him and the secretary: which is sometimes done with propriety, but more often with petulance and sneering. The practice of agriculture very certainly requires being bred to the active exercise of it; but a judgement of soils, a knowledge of manures, &c. may be attained very accurately by a person whose early acquisitions were in a different line. Thus we think Mr. Stone may be an excellent steward, though he may be no farmer; and indeed we can trace some agricultural errors in his present performance; and if Mr. Young's farm be not managed, as is hinted in the work before us, with peculiar skill, this will not detract from the merit we have uniformly ascribed to him. We certainly differ from Mr. Young in many points of agriculture, and in none more than a subject much enlarged on in Mr. Stone's review, viz. paring and burning, where we conceive most useful vegetable matter is sacrificed to the acquisition of a few ashes; yet we think highly of his talents, and warmly commend his application of them. These two works, together, will however render each perhaps more valuable; and on the whole they have greatly improved our knowledge of this county. We shall

Digitized by Google

first notice the agricultural survey, and then add a few remarks on some points controverted by Mr. Stone.

The county of Lincoln lies on the German ocean, and is bounded on the east by that sea. On its north is the river Humber, which divides it from Yorkshire; and on the south Northampton and Cambridge shires. The higher midland counties are on its west; from these are derived its more important rivers, the Trent, the Witham, and perhaps the Welland. Some smaller ones flow from the higher wolds on the east, and the heaths in the neighbourhood of the metropolis. The wolds were perhaps, at one time, the projecting cliffs which confined the sea; for the low ground at present forms a very imperfect barrier, and was once seemingly covered by it. This low ground is pretty extensive in the southern part of the county, but more contracted in breadth, particularly at the south-eastern range of the wolds in the neighbourhood of Wainfleet, and on the north, where these hills almost project into the *embouchure* of the Humber.

We need not observe that Lincolnshire is in general a very low and wet county. Mr. Young, who speaks of some parts of it with much warmth of praise, saw it at an advantageous period. But though its flat grounds require careful and extensive drainage, these same lands, in summer, want water. The springs are deep, and not always easily met with. In three months, viz. from June 1 to August 27, the quantity of rain was $11\frac{78}{100}$ inches, which marks this county to be a wet one. The greatest and least heat may be between $81\frac{1}{2}$ and 25, but this depends on two observations only. Inclosing has proceeded rapidly in this county; and Mr. Young seems to approve of commutation for tithes in bills of this kind. The farms are usually moderate, and the rents low; but the smallness of farms as well as inclosing are not, in our author's opinion, either so favorable to agriculture or to population, as is commonly supposed. We know, in general, that small farmers are neither such good husbandmen as the occupiers of large estates, nor so happy as *their* own servants. They are subject to disorders from incessant toil, and seldom long-lived. These circumstances our political calculators and superficial declaimers on the subject have never taken into their account; but they deserve very ample consideration.

We have some curious remarks on buildings, and a long history of the process of making the stucco used in major Cartwright's house. Leasing is not common, though more so, according to Mr. Stone, than the secretary represents. On the subject of implements, we have some curious information, of which we cannot engage in the detail. The minute statement of the management of arable land in Lincolnshire is very extensive,

Digitized by Google

but broken too much into separate facts, many of which might have been advantageously brought together. They are seemingly thus separated to enable the author to add his authorities. We cannot, on this account, offer any abstract of it, but shall select his conclusions respecting drilling.

'Such are the facts I met with in this inquiry; they confirm the general result through the kingdom. Drilling is a practice which will be found to answer to a certain extent; and with a certain degree of skill and attention. But when a minute attention flags, and the scale is much extended, then it is found that the conclusions drawn from one or two fields were not applicable to a whole farm; that the necessary operations militate with other objects; and what was profit becomes loss. Were all the men known who have tried this husbandry, and laid it aside, the advocates remaining would not figure by their number.' P. 141.

Of the crops less common, a singular one is that of woad (*isatis tinctoria*); and we have a description of major Cartwright's new buildings for its reception. They appear to be very complete: but we think, with Mr. Stone, that the expense of carriage will exceed any advantages derived from the permanent situation, and the vicinity of the parishes, calculated so that those who shall become chargeable in the manufactory shall not be a burthen on the parish where the chief part of the estate lies. Hemp is another of these unusual crops, and well adapted to a deep strong soil, as it soon impoverishes a less fertile one. The rich grazing lands are however of the chief importance in this county; and a large portion of useful information is collected on this subject, though, as usual, too much in detail. In general, the quantity of stock fed *per* acre is almost incredible, and the profits equally surprising. 'The facts here registered contain such proofs of fertility as perhaps no other district in the kingdom can equal—certainly none of similar extent.'

The plantations afford little that is interesting; but what our author observes respecting the wastes should claim attention. With his remarks, we would wish, however, to combine Mr. Stone's observations on the construction of drains, and the errors of some of the more important ones. In general, the fens and commons are by no means highly advantageous: the sheep rot, or in a wet winter are drowned; and the chief advantages are derived from the geese. The following short history of draining is peculiarly curious, and can be easily selected.

'Forty years ago it was all warren for thirty miles from Spilsby to beyond Caistor; and by means of turnips and seeds, there are now at least twenty sheep kept to one there before.

'Every circumstance concerning so very large a tract as the undrained fens deserves attention. For the following particulars I am

Digitized by Google

indebted to sir Joseph Banks, who knows more of them, perhaps, than any other person in the county. The east and west fens were drained by adventurers in the time of Charles I., some account of whose undertakings may be seen in Dugdale's History of Embanking and Draining; they were about that time actually inclosed and cultivated. It is probable that the undertakers and the king, to whom a share was allotted, had taken to themselves a larger portion of the fen than the county thought just and reasonable; for in the time of the great rebellion, a large mob, under pretence of playing at foot-ball, levelled the whole of the inclosures, burnt the corn and houses, destroyed the cattle, and killed many of those who occupied the land. They proceeded to destroy the works of drainage, so that the country was again inundated as it formerly had been. After the restoration, the adventurers repaired their works, resumed their lots of property, and began again to cultivate them; but the country, who always considered themselves oppressed, by trespass upon the grounds, compelled the adventurers to defend their rights by a course of law; in which it was determined, that the original agreement was not valid, and consequently the property of the whole level was vested in its original proprietors. From this time the drainage was carried on under the court of sewers, principally by means of the adventurers' drains; but the river Witham being neglected, and nearly silted up, they became so much oppressed, that application was made to parliament in 1762, when an act passed, by which the present works have been made, which are probably sufficient to carry off the whole of the downfall waters; but till a catch-water drain is made, to keep separate those that fall upon the hills from those which fall upon the level, and a proper outfall provided, to carry the hill waters separately to sea, the expense of which will probably be equal, if not exceed that of the Witham drainage, the land can never be considered as safe winter land; neither can it be thought advisable to divide and inclose it. These fens, east consists of 12,424 acres, one rood, one perch. The undertakers' drains left only 2000 acres under water; but I am credibly informed that the outfall of Maudfoster, as that *goat* now lies, is capable of draining dry the deepest pits in that fen.' P. 225.

It gives us great pleasure to hear, that no obstacles will now be in the way of draining a vast extent of fen. We trust that, in the present auspicious period, the work may be commenced. Our author's observations on the authority of sir Joseph Banks, whose sincerity we believe no one will question, deserve the attention of the Lincolnshire improvers. We can only refer them to pages 233 and 234 of this volume.

The study of drainage is of peculiar importance to the farmers of this district; and some useful hints are offered on this subject. Sir Joseph Banks seems to have succeeded well on Mr. Elkington's plan. A source of moisture, not very usual, arises from the porous ground, which absorbs the water from the sea; and we should suspect that it is with difficulty

Digitized by Google

removed. Perhaps, as hinted in some of the remarks, its entire removal may not be advantageous, as it refreshes and cools the ground in the dry summers, independently of the utility of its salts as a manure. Paring and burning is a practice warmly defended, and the subsidence of the ground accounted for from its increased density. We cannot decide on this subject, as we have no experience in the agriculture of Lincolnshire. Within the district to which our own practice has been confined, it is evidently injurious; and from reasoning we suspect it would be so in others.

On the subject of manures we find nothing particularly curious. Bones are found to be very advantageous, except perhaps for turnips. Burning straw on the ground is said to be particularly so, from its heat, as is supposed, rather than its ashes, which are in very small quantities. It may be doubted whether the hydrogen produced may not be again carried down and united with the earth, though this is not very probable. About five tons of straw *per* acre are sufficient; and the price of the straw is about 5*s*. *per* ton.

To a county which, like that of Lincoln, is gained in a great measure from the sea, the ocean must be an indefatigable and powerful antagonist. Embanking is therefore an operation of no little importance: but scarcely any thing is said of the construction and management of the banks. Warping is a singular operation, confined we believe to Lincolnshire. The streams tributary to the Trent are turbid, though the diffused matter is deposited before it reaches the sea. The operation consists in letting this water pass over the lands, so as to deposit the contents on the soil. It appears to be chiefly sand, but certainly mixed with clay. The quantity deposited is so considerable as to elevate the ground; and the new earth is abundantly fertile. Warping is about to be practised on a great scale. Watering the land has been only of late introduced, but promises to be, as it has been usually found, advantageous when properly conducted.

Of live stock, cattle and sheep are of the chief importance, and many facts are collected on this subject. It is however impossible for us to engage in the detail; and the whole practice, at least so far as regards sheep, is in our opinion erroneous. In reality, we see some parts of the management that we disapprove, and some that we can perhaps not implicitly credit without farther explanation. The following remarks on the production of wool in this county we shall leave to the judgement of our readers.

'Upon the very remarkable facts, that the whole county carries a sheep and a half *per* acre, at 9lb. *per* fleece, I may observe, that if this is true, or near the truth, it is probably stocked far beyond

Digitized by Google

any other in the kingdom. Instead of 1,848,000 acres, let us call it 1,600,000, allowing 248,000 acres for lands that do not probably come into the account at all; at a sheep and a half, there are then 2,400,000 sheep in the county; producing 21,610,000 lb. of wool, which at only 9*d.* *per* pound, or 810,000*l.* amounts to 10*s.* an acre over the whole. Such an account, or any thing near it, is not to be produced in any other district probably in the world. This fact shows the immense consequence to Lincolnshire of a fair price of wool: the manufacturers, in their evidence given before parliament, on the wool bill, stated what they called the rivalry of French fabrics of long wool, by means of smuggling it from England. Supposing the fact (which was directly the reverse), it has now certainly ceased, for the French manufactures have ceased; add to this, that our woollen fabrics, as appears by their registers, and by the custom-house exports, are far more prosperous, yet the price of Lincoln wool was 1*s.* and it is now only 9*d.*; contrary to every thing that ought in such cases to take place. At a fair price, the wool of this county would sell for 1,080,000*l.* a year. The difference is a very material loss indeed!' P. 367.

Rabbits are not so advantageous as sheep. Geese are a profitable stock, as they require little labour: they are plucked four times a year, and each time the feathers are worth 4d. The goose itself is worth from 1*s.* 3*d.* to 1*s.* 6*d.* Fishing is not apparently much attended to.

The chapter on rural œconomy, viz. on labour and provisions, contains nothing very interesting for our present purpose. Wages are in general high.

The subject of political œconomy is considered under the sections of roads, canals, manufactures, poor, and population. The canals and manufactures are neither so numerous nor so important as we might have expected. Of the manufactures, spinning is the most considerable branch; and from this county Norwich is seemingly supplied. A hank of woollen yarn, which by custom is estimated 156 yards, has by the ingenuity of miss Ives been spun to 168,000, or the length of above 95 miles.

The poor in Lincolnshire are numerous, notwithstanding their cottage system, which merits commendation. The women are represented as indolent; and the high wages encourage dissipation. The idea is, that population has declined. From the accounts before us, we greatly doubt of this assertion. The army has certainly lessened the proportional number of men.

The miscellaneous chapter offers little that is interesting. We are glad to find, from Mr. Stone, that the rats which infested Deeping fen are drowned. The appendix is not of much importance. The chief article which merits notice is major Cartwright's method of covering corn-stacks with painted or oiled canvas.

Digitized by Google

In this account of Mr. Young's survey, we have anticipated many parts of Mr. Stone's Review. He, in general, accuses the secretary of partial statements, and unequal attention in his inquiries. Much, it is alleged, has been picked up at ordinaries, and in common conversation. We know not that it is an error to glean from conversation; nor can any inquirer always answer for his authorities. It is sufficient if, as Mr. Young does, he carefully produce them.

On the subject of drainage, Mr. Stone's observations are very judicious and intelligent. We do not transcribe them, because they are chiefly of local importance, and require a minuter knowledge of the situation than we can convey. On the subjects of paring and burning also we fully agree with Mr. Stone. We have examined the practice theoretically and experimentally; and, in each view, are convinced that it is in general injurious. In heavy stiff lands, where the soil is deep and much incorporated with coarse grass and furze, we have found it of service. In these, a diminution of the soil, and the destruction of the vegetable extractive matter, are compensated by the greater friability of the earth. Subsequent manuring, however, with lime and dung, we have always found to be necessary, if the ground be to be kept in heart for any number of years. We shall select Mr. Stone's account of the soils where his practice is alone admissible,

'Paring and burning ought only to be allowed under the following limitations and restrictions:

'Upon fen land lately drained, where it may be impossible to subdue a variety of coarse productions, and to level it any other way.

'Upon fen land with a clay bottom, and a superstratum which requires dissipating and reducing in thickness, in order to allow the plough to sink low enough to touch and bring up a portion of clay to mix with the fen mould.

'Upon strong clayey soils, where no other means can be resorted to, after draining, to render them more open and less tenacious.

'[I have seen the arrangement of soil of this kind totally changed by the process, and thus land qualified to produce turnips in succession, which was impossible to be done upon the circumjacent land of the same original quality. But even in this instance I should prefer the plan recommended by lord Dundonald, "to calcine the clay in clamps or kilns, and to spread it afterwards on the ground, either by itself or mixed with lime."]

'Upon a loamy soil at a great distance from a home situation, and where neither marle, lime, clay, soil, manure, nor any means of improvement can be found. The occupiers to be limited and restrained, after this process, from taking two successive crops of corn or grain, and to return to the same land all the manure which its cropping has produced.

Digitized by Google

'But, upon a very light soil, this process, after the most cautious restrictions, will generally be found detrimental husbandry, both for '*father and son.*' Upon soils of this kind, however, marle or clay, after the Norfolk system, will be found in the highest degree preferable.' P. 228.

Whether Mr. Young have concealed or misrepresented any part of the evidence obtained in this tour, as hinted in the volume before us, is a circumstance that we cannot decide on.

The observations on embanking and on warping are important, as apparently the dictates of genuine and unprejudiced observation. The very favorable view given of the subject in the survey does not appear to be confirmed by experience. On the topic of cattle, Mr. Stone claims the merit of the principal points of reformation adopted by Mr. Young, from his first report. We shall not enlarge on the merits of the case, as we have professed a dislike to the whole Lincolnshire and Leicestershire system. On the other subjects we have enlarged sufficiently. Mr. Stone constantly finds something to object to, or to sneer at.

The appendix contains—

'Observations on the principal subjects which are treated of in the late publication of lord Somerville, entitled "The System followed during the last two Years by the Board of Agriculture further illustrated; with Dissertations on the Produce and Growth of Sheep and Wool, as well Spanish as English. Also Observations upon, and a new Plan for, the Poor and Poor Laws. To which are added Remarks on the Modes of Culture and Implements of Husbandry used in Portugal; and an Inquiry into the Causes of the late Scarcity, and Means proposed to remedy it in future.' P. 353.

In this appendix we perceive a little of the resentment suggested by the treatment of Mr. Stone's report; but there are many observations of real importance and value. Our article has been already so extensive, that we cannot transcribe them; and indeed their minute and miscellaneous nature would have prevented it, had our limits been less confined.

ART. V.—*The New Annual Register, or general Repository of History, Politics, and Literature, for the Year* 1800. *To which is prefixed, the History of Knowledge, Learning, and Taste, in Great-Britain, during the Reign of King Charles II. Part IV.* 8*vo.* 14*s. Boards.* Robinsons. 1801.

UNDER the late administration, every work in which the incense of adulation was not lavished on its principal became an object of censure; and to venture a prediction on the ill success of the war in which he had engaged us, or to animadvert on

Digitized by Google

the unparalleled extravagance with which it was conducted, exposed the writer, as it is justly observed in the preface to this volume, to unbounded 'calumny and venal abuse.' On the alteration of public sentiment in these respects, the editors of this work express a 'joyous triumph;' and having been pertinaciously consistent in the avowal of opinions, of late too generally reprobated, but now once more acquiring an ascendency, they may be justly allowed to exult in the triumph which has been obtained. To the constitution of their country the editors declare themselves firmly attached, almost to idolatry; yet a mere declaration of patriotism is at present but of little weight; for the same assertion is advanced by every party; and those who have been most strenuous for the suspension of the *habeas corpus*, and the confinement of their countrymen in solitary cells upon bare suspicion of disaffection,—for the transmission of money out of the kingdom unsanctioned by the consent of parliament,—for every measure, merely because it has been proposed by the ministry,—are as loud in their asseverations of attachment to the constitution as if their whole conduct had been guided by the bill of rights, as founded at the revolution. Yet facts may be pleaded in favor of the assertion of our editors; and their prior volumes may be recurred to, as affording an unquestionable evidence. Public prejudice having in some measure subsided, it may be determined with ease what publications have evinced the strongest attachment to the constitution; those which in supporting a disgraceful war have weakened some of its main pillars, or those which have been decided against the policy of the war from the beginning, and could not be brought to hug the new-fangled chains on the independency of the press and the liberty of the subject.

The work is arranged in the usual manner. The history of letters in the reign of Charles the Second occupies the first part; and excellent use is made of the copious materials from which a knowledge of that period may be obtained. Our versification began now to receive a degree of polish to which it had hitherto been unaccustomed; but poetry was disfigured by the perpetual attempts at that species of wit which was adapted only to the licentious manners and depraved taste of the court. In delineating or exciting the affections, the poets of this age were seldom successful:—

'—as they were wholly occupied in something unexpected and surprising, they had no regard to that uniformity of sentiment which enables us to conceive and excite the pains and pleasures of other minds. They never inquired what they themselves should have said or done on other occasions; their only aim was to say what had never been said before. They wrote rather as beholders than partakers of human nature, as beings looking upon good and evil impassive, and at leisure; as Epicurean deities, making remarks on the actions of

Digitized by Google

men, and the vicissitudes of life, without interest, and without emotion. Their courtship was void of fondness, and their lamentation of sorrow. Nor was the sublime more within their reach than the pathetic, for they did not attempt that comprehension and expanse of thought which at once fills the whole mind, and of which the first effect is sudden astonishment, and the second rational admiration.' P. xii.

Cowley, Butler, Roscommon, Rochester, Buckingham, Dorset, Waller, Otway, Phillips, Wycherley, pass in review before us; and those who have not the leisure to peruse their lives, in conjunction with the masterly criticisms of Johnson on their works, may, from this abridgement, form a good idea of their professional character.

The British and foreign history is compiled with great judgement, though perhaps more attention than necessary is paid to many of the speeches of individuals in both houses of parliament. The book opens with the address from the throne on the 24th of September 1799, which must now excite a smile or a groan, according to the politics of the reader. 'The deliverance of Italy,' and the expectation of success from the 'efforts for the deliverance of the United Provinces;' the *éloge* on 'our good and faithful ally the emperor of Russia,' and particularly on his wisdom and 'magnanimity,' afford tolerable specimens of the sagacity and foresight of the minister who could enforce such topics from so high an authority. The house, as usual, re-echoed the royal speech, and immediately afterwards proceeded, on the suggestion of Mr. Dundas, to new model, or, it might be said, to overthrow the system of the militia. Among the lords the same debates produced the same conclusions. The finances afforded opportunity for a few trifling discussions, in which, as usual, whatever was proposed by the minister was assented to with scarcely any resistance; and of course, notwithstanding the enormous sums of money advanced, the suggestion by Mr. Martin that the terrace at Somerset-house should be accommodated to the use of the public was rejected by Mr. Pitt with his accustomed *hauteur*. The reason assigned is too ridiculous to be mentioned—that 'the vicinity of the public offices made such a precaution absolutely necessary;' but we may be allowed to observe that so beautiful a promenade would not at Paris, even under the old monarchy, have been locked up from public employment, and rendered, we might almost say, of no utility to any individual whatsoever. Mr. Dundas's India budget is detailed at sufficient length, and it was received with so little attention by the house, that even its introducer would have been flattered by a few remarks on either side with respect to his eastern operations.

Digitized by Google

The third chapter presents us with the celebrated letter of Bonaparte to the king, which was answered by an official note with the subscription of 'Grenville.' The substance of this note was expanded afterwards into a speech before the house of lords by the subscriber, and the house, with very few exceptions, approved the rejection of the proposals to negotiate. Among the commons they were treated with as little ceremony; and Bonaparte's name was accompanied with epithets fitter for the meridian of Billingsgate than for men who were entrusted with the reins of government. The speeches of Mr. Erskine, Mr. Pitt, and Mr. Fox, in this memorable debate, are well detailed; and from these may be formed a tolerable estimate of their respective abilities as orators. The union with Ireland occupies the fourth chapter, in which we were much amused by an insinuation in the house of lords, that the allowance of the peers of Ireland to sit in the commons' house of parliament was 'calculated to create infinite confusion, by blending peers of the realm with commoners—at once vitiating the blood of the nobility, and degrading those of high birth from their rank in society.' Such a strange idea might very well harmonise with the pride of the German or the late French *noblesse*, among whom blood is or was considered as an essential and indelible quality; but how it can apply to the peerage of these kingdoms, where marriages are contracted every day between the peer and the *roturière* without scandal, and the blood of the highest noble scarcely differs in the lightest shade from that of the lowest commoner, we cannot possibly conceive. The fact is, that what is called *mésalliance* cannot take place among us; the third generation untitles the youngest children of the highest rank; and the sixth finds them in every occupation of life. Take a hundred persons promiscuously from the exchange or the royal levee; and their respective ancestors at the sixth generation upwards will be found alike in rank, property, and every other quality. And herein consists one of the great advantages of our own over other countries. We have no cast of nobility; our peerage is an hereditary office merely; every man in the empire is eligible into it; and as only one of a family can ever possess the office, the rest are blended with the general mass of the people;—two separate interests cannot in this country, as in Germany now, and formerly in France, be ever established.

In Ireland, a more ridiculous, or, if we were to express it in its proper terms, a more barbarous and wicked proof of equality took place on the debates of the union. Two of the chief senators, not contented with arguing the point in the representative house, had recourse to the disgraceful fashion of their own country: five shots were in consequence exchanged, and the

Digitized by Google

chancellor of the exchequer was wounded in the arm. The debate, however, proceeded; and these gentlemen, without reflecting on the outrageous insult they thus offered to the laws of their country, their mutual attempt to commit murder, and the degradation of placing themselves on a level with attorneys' clerks or unfledged ensigns, resumed their senatorial occupations, and persevered in their argumentative opposition. We shall not cease to brand such a conduct, wherever it occurs to us, with the contempt it deserves—and especially in the present instance, as it forms a more peculiar characteristic of our neighbours on the other side of the water than of ourselves. Among the many good effects of the union, it may be considered as not the least, that the barbarous and vindictive spirit of the Irish will have a chance of being softened down, or at least preserved only for useful and honorable purposes. The question itself was carried with great ease, notwithstanding the speeches delivered were the most vehement we have ever perused; but it may occasion some regret that the opportunity was not then embraced of freeing the state from farther discussion on the rights of the Catholics, and those of various other denominations who are without the pale of their church.

In the fifth chapter, Mr. Sheridan's attempt to bring the Dutch expedition before the house is detailed at some length. He was answered in an explicit, if not a very satisfactory manner, by Mr. Dundas, whose account of the killed, and of those who died of their wounds, diminished very considerably the general belief of the hard conflicts in which the army was said to have been engaged—the killed amounting, according to the statement of this gentleman, to only eight hundred and forty-six, and those who died of their wounds to not more than one hundred and eighty-five. The sick and wounded admitted into the hospitals are stated at 4,088;—thus, according to this calculation of the sick and wounded, not one in twenty-two died; not one in eight received any injury at all; and not more than one in eighteen received any fatal accident. These facts are curious: but numerous private letters from Holland having exaggerated probably the distresses of the army, had so prepossessed the public mind, that the official statement seems to have afforded but little general satisfaction. The inquiry was, after a little further debate, stifled by a very great majority. Additional subsidies engaged the attention of the lords, and eventually of the commons; when, after so many averred motives for the war, Mr. Pitt at length reduced it to one word, namely, *security*. He proceeded in his usual manner—

"It was also more than this; security against a danger the greatest that ever threatened the world—a danger which never existed before in any period of society—which threatened and had been resisted

Digitized by Google

by all the nations of Europe, and by none with so much success as our own, because by none so uniformly, and with so much energy. Our resistance had not been confined to external force; it had joined internal policy and wise legislative measures, to oppose Jacobinism in the bosom (he was sorry to have found it there) of our own country.

"How was it discovered that Jacobinism had disappeared in France? It was now centred in one man, nursed in its school, who had gained celebrity under its auspices, and was at once the child and the champion of its atrocities—*Bonaparte*.

"Our security in negotiation was to be this man, who was now the organ of all that was destructive in the revolution. Granting that 200,000,000*l.* had been expended for the words "just and necessary," it had been expended for the best of causes—to protect the dearest rights, to defend the most valuable privileges, the laws, the liberties, the happiness of our country; and for such objects as much more would we spend, and as much more should we find." p. 171.

Fortunately for the country, this speaker was not permitted to verify his last words; yet a great majority concurred with him in the debate. The farther suspension of the *habeas-corpus* act excited some severe altercation in both houses; but, as usual, the minister again succeeded.

Sir F. Burdett asserted that—

"—the power conferred by this bill had been already placed in the hands of men who abused it; illegal warrants had been issued out; powers not known to the constitution were passed into the hands of Bow-street ruffians upon the warrants of clerks in offices, who, under their authority, went down to Manchester, and dragged masters of families from their own houses at night, amidst the cries of those families; handcuffed and loaded them with irons; shut them up in Clerkenwell prison, where they were lodged under pain of body and mind. When out of their bands, they applied to the humanity of the jailor for relief, in consequence of the swellings of their legs occasioned by the treatment of these savages. What would the immortal Chatham have said on the recital of such oppression? the thunder of his eloquence would have shaken the house, and the avenues would have been thronged with auditors, whilst he had pointed out wherein the superiority of our country, wherein the excellence of our constitution, consisted. It was in this, that the cottage of the peasant was as sacred as the palace of the king: though humbly thatched, it was secure, and an asylum which dared not be violated. He would have raised a storm from which the senators would gladly have screened their heads, and hastened to their homes:—but, now, the character of the house was power and not language, and majorities did not depend on reasoning." p. 180.

A strange veil seems to have been thrown over the proceedings in the Cold-bath-fields' prison, and the more so, because, if

Digitized by Google

lord Belgrave's mode of exonerating ministers from the charge of inhumanity be allowed, a question naturally suggests itself which it is difficult to answer. The ministers, according to his lordship, are not culpable, 'because there had been an accidental inattention in the superintendant of a prison.' This accidental inattention refers, we believe, to the case of colonel Despard. But this does not appear to have been the only accident of the sort; since a number of other persons, confined merely on suspicion, were proved to have been equally ill-treated. Yet we cannot find that ministers ever testified the remotest disapprobation of the jailor's conduct.

From parliamentary debates, we are carried, in the sixth chapter, to the East Indies, and our attention is engaged by the war with Tippoo Sultaun. The secret causes of this war still remain, it is properly observed, to be explored; the event, however, was glorious to the British arms. The East-India company increased its territories at the expense of the defeated monarch, whose dominions were divided, upon his death, between the company, the Nizam, the Mahrattas, and a descendent of the ancient rajahs of Mysore. The capture of the capital gave wealth to our troops; and the monarch was interred with all the honors due to his imperial station. From India we are transported to America, where the death of the great and good Washington is the only event we meet with to disturb the happiness of that country.

The foreign history commences with chapter the seventh; in which is given an account of Bonaparte's new constitution, and his attempt to negotiate with England. The eighth chapter dilates on the affairs of the Ligurian and Batavian republics, and the horrors exercised at Naples, in which the vindictive spirit of royalty seemed to contend with republicanism in cruelty and ferocity.

'But whatever tyranny was exercised in the north of Italy, whatever vengeance was let loose on those whom caprice or principle might have led to the adoption of other forms of government than those under which, previous to the invasion of the French, the inhabitants of those now devoted countries had been accustomed to live, they were light and trivial compared to the unexampled horrors which deluged the territory of Naples. The violation of the treaties entered into with the members of the late republican government of that country is now become a part of history: and were not the details of these transactions (of which we gave but a very slight sketch in our narrative of the events of the last year) authenticated by the most incontrovertible testimony, we should be led to refuse our belief to the commission of deeds, the bare recital of which must strike every mind with dismay and horror. The vengeance of the court of Sicily remained yet unsatiated with its multitudes of victims. After six months of carnage, in which had fallen on the scaf-

Digitized by Google

fold, or perished at the gallows, whatever Naples contained most distinguished for talent, or most illustrious for birth, the bloody axe, the dungeon, or exile, continued the dreadful instruments of its impolitic vengeance. Scarcely a family in Naples but had to lament the loss of some relation. Fidelity to the royal cause in parents, essential services rendered to the court, was no exemption from the calamity of seeing their children massacred before their eyes. Here a whole posterity was swept away; there whole families, and those of the highest class, became extinct.' P. 223.

The apparent destruction of the French interest in Egypt, by the treaty for their quitting the country, forms the most interesting part of this chapter, which concludes with the general conduct of the courts of Berlin, Sweden, Copenhagen, and Spain, at this period.

The ninth chapter is full of action. The decisive campaigns of Bonaparte and Moreau are described with great spirit; and the conduct of Massena in his arduous situation gives him a claim to very high distinction. He was sent from Paris, not to conquer, for that could not be expected, but to retain possession of the town of Genoa as long as possible. In this he justified to the utmost the opinion formed of his bravery and military prudence. He saved the French territories from an earlier invasion, and surrendered the town at such a time, that the Austrians, flushed with their victory, pursued with confidence the plan formed in the cabinet of Vienna, and were already in opinion masters of the south of France. Their general, in the midst of these presumptuous hopes, is appalled by the defeat of his troops a hundred miles in his rear, by an army descending with Bonaparte from the Alps; and, instead of advancing to the conquest of France, he measures back his steps to encounter this formidable name:—the decisive battle of Marengo restores Italy to the French, and renders Bonaparte the arbiter of Europe. At the same time, the affairs of France revive in Egypt. The British ministry refuse to confirm the convention entered into with Kleber; hostilities are renewed; the grand-vizier is completely defeated, and the French are again masters of this entire province. Thus terminates the almost romantic history of the year 1800. At its commencement, the government of Bonaparte was deemed to be without stability: but his genius pervaded every department of the state; he gave the evidence of facts as a decisive proof of his capacity to treat with foreign powers; and every thing seemed to augur that he would be the most powerful sovereign in Europe.

The principal occurrences of the year are detailed in the usual manner, in which are many circumstances highly honorable to our navy; and it is not without pleasure that every Englishman will see so large a portion of this department thus

Digitized by Google

occupied. Among the public papers, is the correspondence between lord Grenville, Mr. Hammond, and citizen Otto, on the attempted negotiation. The selection of biographical anecdotes is very judicious. An admirably-drawn character is given of the great Catharine of Russia, as she is called, although her right to such a title may well be doubted. Lewis XVI. and Charles I. form the subjects of two other papers: and a long account of the poet Burns completes this division of the work. In the part allotted to the manners of nations, we are entertained chiefly with oriental habits and superstitions: but it concludes with customs nearer home; and the singular rites of a sect in Wales, denominated *jumpers*, may vie in absurdity with the stupendous follies of the faquirs of Malabar. In classical and polite criticism the pen of Dr. Aikin is distinguished; yet in this branch room might have been found, if a little retrenchment had been made from the philosophical class, for other names besides those of Dr. Aikin and Dr. Currie. Under the philosophical class we were surprised to meet with some useful information on *kitchen gardening*; though there are also several other papers as little entitled to insertion under such a head. The work concludes with poetry, and a general review of domestic literature. In the former are some judicious extracts from Hayley, Sotheby, and Bloomfield: in the latter, the compiler has availed himself, with great skill, of the advantages afforded to him by the monthly publications. On the whole, this volume will not be found inferior to its predecessors; and as well on account of the matter contained in it, as the manner in which every subject is arranged and discussed, it is calculated to afford much entertainment and instruction to the general reader.

ART. VI.—*Excursions from Bath. By the Rev. Richard Warner.* 8*vo.* 8*s. Boards.* Robinsons. 1801.

WE have always accompanied Mr. Warner with pleasure; and if, as an historian, we have occasionally differed from him, we will not revive the little disagreement (it has been indeed but slight) in our tours. We will proceed with him cheerily, as before.

These excursions are three in number, contained in four letters. In the first, he passes from Bath, through Frome, to Longleat, and thence round by Witham Friary to Stourhead and Hindon. From Hindon (Letter II.) he advances to Fonthill, Wilton, and Salisbury; and returns by Warminster and Trowbridge to Bath. It is not easy to contrive a tour more pleasing, or which contains objects of entertainment so various and so truly interesting in many different respects.

Digitized by Google

In the second excursion, Mr. Warner marches eastward to Pickwick, to Corsham, and to Spy Park; and thence directs his course northward to Bowood, Chippenham, and Malmsbury, including Charlton Park. He returns by Badminton and Old Sodbury to Bath.

In the third excursion he follows nearly the course of the Avon to Frocester; proceeds eastward to Cirencester; and returns in a somewhat devious track, including Tetbury, before he arrives at Tortworth, in the more direct road to Bath.

Our author's apology for this undertaking, new and unusual to him, we shall transcribe from the introduction to the first letter.

'To JAMES COMRIE, Esq.

'DEAR SIR, *Bath, Sept. 1st, 1800.*

'You have imposed upon me so arduous a task, that I feel an almost insuperable diffidence at attempting to perform it. When I led you through the wild scenery of Wales, I proceeded without fear or hesitation; my work was easy; I had little else to do than to describe the face which nature wears in that incomparable country, where the features are in general so strong and well defined, that I must have been a miserable painter indeed had my portrait been altogether without resemblance. Besides, I had the field to myself, my plan had not been anticipated, and my letters consequently borrowed some interest and recommendation from novelty; but in the present case I see formidable difficulties on every side. Here I must exchange the simplicity of nature for the intricacies of art, and descend from the grand to the minute—from the mountain, the precipice, and the cataract, original manners and ancient customs, to the park and to the picture-gallery, to the refinements of luxury, and the elegancies of polished life. Innumerable examples of *verth*, and exquisite specimens of the fine arts, present themselves for description; and what is still more deterring, a line is chalked out for me, a great part of which has already been trodden by taste and science, by a Gilpin and a Maton. Your requests, however, have with me always the force of commands; I hasten, therefore, to comply with them, and to lead you through a part of Wiltshire, in an excursion which must prove highly gratifying to you, if I am fortunate enough to convey a tolerably accurate idea of the many beauties which it exhibits.' P. 1.

It is however in this line that we must particularly notice Mr. Warner's success; for it is in a great measure a new one. On the whole, we are considerably pleased with his descriptions of collections of pictures. His historical remarks are concise and pertinent; they lead to those points of history which elucidate most strikingly the character, and render it most interesting to the observer. The pictures have been often described, and we shall not again copy catalogues too generally known.

Digitized by Google

The account of Holloway, the receptacle of the beggars who infest the streets of Bath, is truly humorous and interesting. It is a little novel, where the real *dénouement* is in the commencement admirably disguised. The various objects in the first part of the excursion around Bath are well described, and we shall select the following judicious defence of the antiquary's researches.

'The tedious hill above Midford brings us at length to a level, a higher ground than we have trodden since we left Bath, and opens an extensive prospect to the right, quite into the county of Wilts. Proceeding to the five-mile stone, we reach the village of Hinton, and turn to the left, in order to survey the ruins of its abbey, and the remains of Farley-castle in its neighbourhood;—a rich treat to the antiquary, and not undeserving the attention of those who prefer the beauties of nature to the vestiges of former magnificence. Indeed, did the deviation afford us nothing but dilapidated cloisters and mouldering turrets, I should still think our trouble repaid; for lightly as the antiquarian taste is esteemed, and much as it is ridiculed, it notwithstanding opens no mean sources of gratification to the man who cultivates it rationally, and leads to consequences interesting to society, and beneficial to the individual. Did the enjoyment of the antiquary consist in the unmeaning contemplation of unintelligible fragments and time-eaten stones, it would be fair to consider him as senseless as the objects to which he directs it: but when the remains of ancient days awaken curiosity and excite research; when they induce inquiries into the manners and customs, opinions and practices, of former times; when they lead to a comparison between the state of the arts amongst our forefathers and with us their descendants; when they are brought to the illustration of historical difficulties or distant events; above all, when they entice the mind to sober reflexion, and to a fair estimate of our present state, the evanescence of all human labours, and the vanity of all human schemes, the pursuit then assumes a more dignified aspect; it asserts the praise of contributing not only to the entertainment, but to the information of the community; it strengthens the religious principle, and makes the man better and wiser than he would be without it.' P. 22.

Farley-castle, its splendid monuments and mummies, the manufactures of Frome, and the beautiful ornaments of Longleat, are described with great propriety. Marston-Bigot house, and Maiden-Bradley, are shortly noticed. The pictures of Stourhead detain him longer. But we shall prefer for our extract our author's truly interesting account of the classic scenes in the vicinity.

'But the entertainment which the inside of the mansion at Stourhead affords, is surpassed by the gratification that arises from a view of its pleasure-grounds; which, to speak generally, I could say, exceed in tasty disposition and appropriate ornament, any I have ever had the opportunity of seeing. Nature, it must be confessed, had already formed a spot every way capable of being converted into a

Digitized by Google

perfect elysium, by the most agreeable variety of hill and valley, terrace and dale, when Mr. Hoare took the canvas in hand, to add those masterly touches which give life, and spirit, and finish to the whole. He has, indeed, executed his work with judgement and taste, and produced a picture beautiful in its parts, and perfect in the *tout-ensemble*. Almost as soon as we quit the house, the path to the lake declines gently through a velvet lawn, sprinkled with firs and beech-trees, and evergreens; the hill rising to the right and sinking to the left. These quickly thicken, and form themselves into a wood, admitting only occasional glances at the beautiful objects in the dale to the left, and on the lake below. The little church, with its open worked battlements, and the magnificent temple of Apollo swelling from the dark side of the hill above it, are caught through the first opening: these are succeeded by a view of the Pantheon, suddenly bursting upon the eye from the opposite side of the lake, which stretches at its feet in tranquil majesty, embosomed on all sides in wooded elevations, rising amphitheatrically around it. To the margin of this piece of water (which, though covering only twenty acres, is so judiciously lost in every part amongst the woods, as to allow the imagination to stretch it to any extent) we are at length conducted, where a neat ferry-boat offers itself as the conveyance to the opposite side of the lake. We now reach classic ground, and, dropping all modern acquaintance, associate for a time only with the gods and heroes of antiquity. Here we have the opportunity of surveying and admiring the first piece of water. This is supplied with copious never-failing springs, (amongst which the chief one of the river Stour lends its powerful assistance) and preserves uniformly the same height, the waste water being carried off by an artificial cascade, so judiciously disposed as to form, from another point, a most beautiful feature in the scenery. The picture from the place of landing assumes a new face; but equally interesting and magnificent with those we have already noticed. Before us lies the lake, from whose verdant margin the wooded hills shoot up in all the majesty of shade; to the right appears the temple of Apollo, which, from the low point where we view it, appears to hold a loftier situation than before; and on the opposite side of the water the old stone bridge, and the Doric temple of the goddess Flora, disclose themselves. We now proceed to the grotto (invisible till it be reached) constructed in the side of a hill, and consisting of a passage, and the small apartment to which it leads. This is illumined by a circular hole at top, which, overgrown with ivy and other creeping plants, admits a sort of gloomy indistinct light, well calculated to aid the other circumstances of the spot, in deeply impressing the imagination, and assisting the belief that the figures which adorn the grotto are the living tutelary deities of the sacred waters within. On two sides of the apartment are arches, one by which it is entered, and an opposite one by which it is quitted. To the right appears a deep recess, or cavern, within which is the figure of a sleeping nymph, in white marble, reclining on a pedestal; and immediately under her a bath of crystalline water, supplied by a copious perennial spring issuing from the hill behind the statue. On a marble slab, which forms the first step of the bath, are the following lines

Digitized by Google

by Mr. Pope, who frequently wooed the Muses in the shades of Stourhead; they are the elegant translation of some Latin verses by cardinal Bembo:—

"Nymph of the grot, these sacred springs I keep,
And to the murmur of these waters sleep;
Ah! spare my slumbers, gently tread the cave,
And drink in silence, or in silence lave."

"Hujus nympha loci, sacri custodia fontis,
Dormio, dum blandæ sentio murmur aquæ.
Parce meum, quisquis tangis cava marmora, somnum
Rumpere, sive bibas, sive lavere, tace."

'Opposite to the arch by which we depart from the grotto is a smaller cavern, inhabited by an ancient river god, *pater Stour*, I presume, sitting upon a large inclined urn, from the mouth of which pours a flood of water, said to be the chief spring of the river Stour, which, rising here, takes a circuitous course through Dorsetshire, marries the Avon near Christ-Church in Hampshire, and loses itself and its companion in the ocean, about two miles below that town. Over the arch in front of this recess hangs a wooden tablet, with some lines allusive to this aquatic deity.

"Hæc domus, hæ sedes, hæc sunt penetralia magni
Amnis; in hoc residens facto de cautibus antro
Undis jura dabat, nymphisque colentibus undas."

'From this magic spot the path conducts us to a magnificent edifice called the Pantheon, built after the model of that noble antique temple at Rome. Here, as in all the other tenements of Stourhead, magnificence has acted under the direction of perfect taste; and the large sum of twelve thousand pounds has been expended in a manner that at once interests the imagination and pleases the judgement. This structure stands on that part of the bank where the lake spreads itself into its greatest breadth, and commands all the objects before enumerated, with the addition of the beautiful Gothic cross;—a view, in my opinion, superior to that from the temple of Apollo, though not generally esteemed so; since the latter is a bird's-eye one, and every thing is seen below it; whereas the Pantheon is more on a level with most of the objects which compose the picture, and has the advantage of looking up to the others. This building consists of a portico, or vestibulum, and an adytum; the first is formed by four elegant columns of the Corinthian order, the second contains two antique busts, that on the right Alexander, and that on the left Pompey. An iron gate separates this member of the structure from the adytum, which, seen through its gateways, exhibits a most impressive sight. A circular opening in the dome admits the light, which receives a rich golden tinge from some yellow glass introduced into the aperture. The walls are stained of a deep purple colour, finely contrasting and relieving the brilliant white marble statues ranged round the apartment, and standing on superb pedestals of different foreign marbles—the whole forming such an august exhibition as subjects the understanding to the control of fancy; and

Digitized by Google

the mind, taken by surprise, assents for a moment to the belief of the truth of classical mythology.' P. 104.

'The path leaving the Pantheon enters a grotto, through which it passes and ascends the hill behind the temple, conducting us in its way over the turnpike-road, which is very artfully carried under it, but so obscured by wood as not to be visible. Another variety now occurs, an hermitage, or wood-house, formed of old pollard trees, through which we are led to an eminence, when the view becomes more extensive, and, the immediate objects being lost, the valley opens to the right and left. Leaving this, a few paces more bring us to the temple of Apollo, another admirable imitation of classical architecture, being a copy from the temple of the Sun at Balbec. This is a circular building of the Corinthian order, surrounded by a peristyle, the entablature of which assumes a curious though elegant escallop or semi-circular form, supported by twelve pillars. As many niches adorn the face of the outside of the temple, each filled with its deity, cast in lead from antique models. A large cast statue of the Belvidere Apollo occupies the interior, which is lighted from above by a circular hole. The roof of the temple spreads into a dome, and has a double cieling; in the lower is the aperture, and in the coving of the other a splendid gilt representation of the solar rays, which, receiving the real light of this orb by an artful construction, throws into the temple below a most splendid reflexion when the sun is in its strength. From the temple of Apollo we follow a descending path, which penetrates a subterraneous passage, where the public road again crosses the walk at right angles, without being discovered; the latter abasing itself in its turn, and taking a gloomy course under the turnpike road. Emerging again into day, we are soon led to the temple of Flora, of the Doric order, simple and chaste as its tutelary deity. From the portico we take in the wide-spread lakes and all its adjuncts, seen here under new circumstances and different combinations; over the gate of the temple is this prohibition of entrance to the profane, *Procul, O procul, este, profani*; and within it are, a vase of composition from an antique model, two classical altars, and as many *celle* and busts. The last object which claims our attention in the gardens is the Gothic cross before mentioned, a most sumptuous piece of architecture, purchased of the corporation of Bristol by Mr. Henry Hoare, and transported by him to Stourhead.' P. 111.

This delightful spot has detained us so long, that we must leave Fonthill, a house 'where expense' HAD (that '*had*,' how sad a passage 'tis!) 'reached its utmost limits in furniture and ornaments; where every room is [*was*] a gold mine, and every apartment a picture-gallery.' This splendid seat does not however detain our author long; and he proceeds to Wardour castle, where the paintings are described at somewhat greater length.

Mr. Warner passes through Wilton in some degree too hastily. We have however followed many tourists in this inter-

Digitized by Google

esting spot: but no one seems to have remarked the singular incongruity between the Palladian bridge and the old mansion: it is a strip of lace on a worn-out coat. He steps with greater celerity through the streets of Salisbury, but enlarges considerably on Stonehenge and Old Sarum.

Of these the latter attracts attention only once in seven years; and as to the former, it is sufficient to say that our author treads in the fallacious steps of Mr. King, upon whose Munimenta Antiqua we have already had occasion to animadvert*. He of course believes this stupendous pile to be a druidical relic; but, more extraordinary still! a pile erected not by the aboriginal inhabitants, the αυτοχθονες, of the country, but by a migration, and that a second migration too, of Belgic Gauls! Upon this subject we need only remark the singularity of bringing Belgic Gauls to erect in another country, with peculiar labor and art, a religious monument for rites which they did not acknowledge as their own, and which were indeed brought to them from this island, however they may have originally been introduced here.

In the second excursion, Corsham and Mr. Methuen's new picture-gallery, with its intended ornaments, are shortly described. Lacock-abbey also shares our author's attention; but the greater part of his commendations are reserved for Bowood, the seat of the marquis of Lansdown. We have little doubt of its meriting all the praises bestowed on it; but cannot subscribe to the entire panegyric bestowed on the talents of its owner.

Charlton Park, in the neighbourhood of Malmsbury, offers a curious collection of paintings; and Badminton, the seat of the duke of Beaufort, one peculiarly numerous, curious, and valuable.

In the third excursion we meet with nothing very strongly interesting. We find a manufacture of an unexpected kind, viz. that of sperma-ceti from the remains of animal substances; and we may now, in the manner of Hamlet, without the imputation of 'considering too curiously,' trace the fine lady illuminating assemblies which she once adorned. Blaze-castle furnishes a noble collection of paintings. The account of the ornaments of Berkeley-castle is also extensive; but we shall rather select the description of the castle itself and the scenery around.

'Much variety of country and interesting scenery are offered to the traveler in his ride from this place to Berkeley, a distance of nine miles; the Severn, with its playful windings and rich banks, opening occasionally to the left, and the grand hills of Stinchcomb, Frocester, &c. swelling out of a highly-cultivated and populous country to the right. The august castle attracts attention as we approach the village, venerable on account of its antiquity, and awful from its having been the scene of one of the most atrocious murders recorded

* See our 30th vol. New Arr. p. 361.

Digitized by Google

in English history. It is situated at the southern extremity of the park, on a gentle rising of the ground, which gives it a view not only over the grounds in its neighbourhood, but also of a large tract of distant country—the fertile fields of Glocestershire, the reaches of the Severn, and the mountains of Monmouthshire. Founded originally in the reign of Henry I. by Roger de Berkeley, and completed in that of Stephen, by Roger the third earl of Berkeley, it has been preserved ever since entire and unaltered, except in some little circumstances which modern ideas of convenience demanded, and exhibits therefore the most complete specimen of ancient Norman military architecture in the kingdom. The noble owner has fitted up the interior in a manner consistent with the style of its venerable outside, judiciously excluding all modern knick-knacks, and admitting nothing in the line of furniture which does not associate with the ideas of feudal times and old English grandeur. An ancient gateway opens into the basse court; through which we enter the hall, a fine old raftered room, with a gallery at one end for the accommodation of the minstrelsy on days of high carousing. From this apartment a small passage conducts us to the ancient chapel of the castle, long since decayed, lined with oak, having a gallery for the heads of the family to sit in during prayers, and a confessional for their use, when the stock of sin, becoming too heavy for the conscience, was to be removed by the wonder-working absolution of the accommodating priest.

'Connected with the chapel is the dining-room, wainscoted with oak, its cieling divided into square compartments by massive rafters of the same wood, and its walls decorated with ordinary full lengths, painted on wood, and probably imaginary, of—

'George earl of Berkeley, great great grandfather to the present earl; James I.; Jane Shore; Robert Fitzharding; and a picture of Reubens over the chimney.' P. 303.

The view from Frocester hill is highly beautiful and well described; but our account is already sufficiently extensive, and we must resist the temptation to copy it. The tunnel of the canal that unites the Thames and the Severn is an immense work, which claims equal admiration, on account of the extent, the labor, and the utility of the undertaking; but the description would afford little pleasure. Lord Bathurst's grounds will not obtain from the present age the compliments paid by Pope, as they are laid out in the stiff style of queen Anne's days. We shall conclude this article with our author's delineation of Wick rocks, premising a mineralogical error, at the distance of not many pages, in which he confounds strontian with barytes.

'The geology of Wick rocks affords as much curiosity to the naturalist as the beauty of the scene offers gratification to the man of taste. In the most lofty part they rise to the height of two hundred feet or upwards, and consist of a series of beds of lime-stone, and petrosilex, alternating with each other; exhibiting, towards the west, a vein of coal of fourteen inches thick, and another of lead, both formerly worked, shouldered on each side by a mass of petrosi-

Digitized by Google

lex. In the centre of the glen we find a bed of lime-stone, nearly six hundred yards in breadth, inclosed between two beds of petrosilex, of nearly the same horizontal dimensions, all dipping to the west-north-west, in an angle of sixty feet with the plain of the horizon. Imbedded in this are lead ore, spathous iron ore, cauk or barytes, and that large species of anomia of which a profusion is found in the rocks of Mendip, Hotwells, and Derbyshire. The division of petrosilex adjoining to this great bed on the east combines again with the lime rock on the road to Doynton, and at this union becomes a mill-stone or pudding-stone. Below the glen to the westward, by the side of the Bristol road, and a little under the surface of the red ground which is sufficiently obvious to the eye, are deposited a great profusion of geodes or nodules, containing within them beautiful quartz crystal, with calcareous dog-tooth spar.' P. 342.

ART. VII.—*On the Nature and Occasion of Psalm and Prophecy, twelve Critical Dissertations. By James Hurdis, D.D. &c.* 8vo. 5*s. Boards.* Johnson.

THE author of these dissertations, who hath recently paid the debt of nature, was unquestionably possessed of considerable talents; but whether his judgement at all times kept pace with his genius, there is much reason to question. His poetical compositions abound with beauties of description and sentiment which elevate him to no inconsiderable degree of pre-eminence, while he has occasionally showed the most bombastic expressions and turgidities of thought. Analogous to this sketch of him as a poet, is his character as a critic; and the work before us will amply confirm the decision.

In his first dissertation, Dr. Hurdis, having proposed his subject, and instanced the several points undertaken to be proved, proceeds to exhibit a view of the several feasts of the law, as connected with the climate of Syria; and thence advances the first part of his hypothesis, viz. that the leading festival of the Hebrew nation was that of the former and latter rain, which he describes with its attendant ceremonies. To prop the superstructure reared on this foundation, the doctor has recourse to the state of the Syrian atmosphere when the psalm was performed; and next adverting to the general state of nature, describes the judgement or annual assise, and attempts thence to illustrate some peculiar notions of the Hebrews.

The second dissertation carries us forward to the period of performing *the psalm*, which, according to Dr. Hurdis, was by night, and during illuminations. At the same time he insists *the word* was imparted. Hence, he proceeds—not very consistently, as we think—to the singular regulation of Jeroboam;

Digitized by Google

from which digression he formally advances to consider the double nature of the psalm; when suddenly breaking off, he adverts to the mode of warfare among the Hebrews, and the hour they entered into and quitted the field. Then commenting on the voyage of St. Paul, and the psalm of Judith, with the manner in which it was exhibited, the dissertation closes with observations on the Hebrew season of peace.

The sixty-eighth psalm is the leading topic of Dr. Hurdis's third dissertation. Having closed his remarks upon it, he diverts to the choral dance performed upon the slaughter of Goliath, the thanksgiving of Hannah, and the triumphant dance of Jephthah's daughter. The congruity of this latter subject introduces our author in his wildly devious route to the psalms of Deborah, and of Miriam; upon the last of which a question is grounded, Whether the Hebrew psalm originated in Egypt? Deciding it to be an Egyptian custom, Dr. Hurdis next exhibits Pharaoh's daughter as leader of the chorus; and thence proceeds to seek for proof of the psalm being performed by Jacob before the descent of his family into Egypt. Another digression here follows relative to the choral customs of Asia compared with those of the South-Sea Islands, combining descriptions from Homer, Hesiod, Virgil, and Horace.

In the fourth dissertation, and to the eighth inclusive, Dr. Hurdis distributes the book of psalms into separate classes. Of these, the first commences with the penitential song of Zion, which having considered, he proceeds to the *forty-second* and *forty-third*, the *eightieth*, *eighty-third*, *eighty-fourth*, *hundred and forty-third*, and *sixty-ninth*.

Having referred to this division such compositions of the psalmist as are expressive of the fears and apprehensions of a dejected people, with whom despair is more prevalent than hope, he includes in the second order those odes of 'a more lively class, which were sung in Israel, when surrounded by the enemy and waiting for the rain to descend: such as display the most ardent and pious confidence that it will not long be delayed.' Amongst those of this description, which Dr. Hurdis considers as the most elegant and remarkable, we may instance the *tenth*, *eleventh*, *twenty-seventh*, *thirty-seventh*, *sixty-fifth*, and *hundred and fourth*.

The third class of psalms is next considered and divided into two descriptions, the first comprehending the whole of the sixth dissertation, and consisting of psalm the *twenty-ninth*, *seventy-seventh*, *eighty-fifth*, *ninety-third*, *ninety-fifth* and *sixth*, *hundred and fourth*, *hundred and twenty-sixth*, and *hundred and forty-eighth*.

The second description of psalms of the third class, making the subject of the seventh and eighth dissertations, are the *eighteenth*, *twenty-third*, *thirty-third*, *thirty-sixth*, *forty-seventh*,

Digitized by Google

forty-eighth, fiftieth, sixty-fifth, sixty-eighth, seventy-sixth, ninety-seventh, ninety-eighth, one hundred and forty-ninth, and the psalm in the *third* chapter of Habakkuk. To this arrangement and discussion critical observations are subjoined.

The ninth dissertation is dedicated to a new subject, viz. that of PROPHECY; in respect to which, Dr. Hurdis inquires into the time of its communication; and to prove that it was, in its regular course, delivered at the same season with the psalm, he dwells minutely upon the history of the mission of Elijah, whom he styles the prophet of the former rain; and having offered an explanation of his running before Ahab, adds proofs that Saul and David ran in the same manner. Stating some instances in reference to Solomon, Samuel, Balaam, &c. that the word was communicated by night in vision or dream, and suggesting reflexions on the feast of Moab, and on Abraham's rescue of Lot, the dissertation closes with such evidence as the professor deems sufficient to evince that prophecy was delivered at the season of the former rain, from the age of Abraham to that of Elijah.

The doctor, continuing his researches, introduces his tenth dissertation with the observation, that, about the period of time he is discussing, the prophetic character assumed a uniform complexion, which ever afterwards attached to it. Evidence is consequently adduced to show that the successors of Elijah prophesied at the same season of the year; and these exemplifications are accordingly applied both to Elisha and Isaiah, in this dissertation; whilst the next extends them to Jeremiah, Ezekiel, and Daniel; and the twelfth to the minor prophets.

The dissertations are followed by the annexed conclusion.

'Thus have I shown, to the satisfaction, I trust, and full conviction of my reader, what is the *nature* and what the *occasion* of psalm and prophecy. Let it not be imagined that I have exhausted the subject, and suffered no proofs which may favour my conclusions to be kept in reserve. My intention, in this volume, has been to state briefly what I have found to be fact, and to support truth by *sufficient* evidence. I have therefore appealed to the psalms only in a limited number of instances, and from the prophecies I have drawn still fewer examples. He who entertains an opinion, that I have not fully established my assertion, that the season of the promulgation of prophecy and of singing the psalm was at a great public feast held previous to the former rain, must be referred to the Scriptures at large for farther information. I have planted a rock upon which criticism will find it safe to rely, and I must leave it to the curious to build upon it the fabric of perfect knowledge by research. With safety can I pronounce, that labour thus applied will be well repaid; and that when the Scriptures have been examined by the above standard of investigation, they will be found to be truly worthy of that Holy Spirit which inspired their authors. It is to the superficial inquirer only that they appear to be clouded with imperfections. To him

Digitized by Google

who patiently considers their merits, it will be manifest, that they are capable of extorting admiration from the scholar who reviews them by the severest test. They are compositions truly incomparable for their beauty and sublimity, for their regard to unity of design and orderly arrangement; and are not to be charged in vain with the slightest critical defect.

'I will farther add, that the method here pursued is the only safe and effectual means of extracting from the Scriptures their genuine sense. To be able to understand the New Testament, we must be well acquainted with the Septuagint; and to comprehend the Septuagint, we ought to be critically versed in the Hebrew. When an extensive and accurate knowledge of the Hebrew tongue, supported by a patient investigation of the ancient customs of the East, has been applied to the illustration of the Septuagint, we may open the New Testament with sanguine hopes of completely understanding its language. Without such a foundation, and while we interpret apostles and evangelists, by appeal to those Greek classics, with which they had little or no acquaintance, imperfect and even contradictory explanations must arise. On the contrary, if the Scriptures are not studied through this elegant but deceitful medium, if they are investigated as it were *ab ovo*, in the manner above represented, I will venture to pronounce, that many doctrinal points upon which well-meaning but ill-informed Christians at present differ, will assume a sense so precise and determined, as to be no longer capable of being misinterpreted and controverted.' P. 266.

Such is the retrospect which Dr. Hurdis has taken of his own work; but in whatever light it might have appeared to himself—or however satisfactory, in his own estimation, the data which he denominates proofs—in our judgement they should be called by a different appellation, and rather contemplated as mere fancies, inconsistent, in many instances, with the very facts to which they appeal. The rock then upon which, to use the doctor's phrase, criticism may safely rely, is not that upon which he has built. That labor *well* applied to the study of the Scriptures will be well repaid, we are as thoroughly convinced of as we are that the Scriptures themselves, when thoroughly examined, will be found truly worthy of the divinity by whom they were inspired: but we must not read them through the spectacles of hypothesis, which would exhibit *men, like trees, walking*. When Dr. LOWTH began to deliver his Prelections, the art of Hebrew poetry was but little understood. Prejudices were in general so prevalent against it, when contrasted with the remains of Greece and of Rome, that his lectures were necessarily a sort of apology to excuse existing differences of opinion. The ingenuity, however, with which each topic was treated, the elegance of his translations, and the general beauty of his style, all joined to excite and conciliate the public attention. Since that period, Biblical criticism hath been in consequence considerably promoted; and HERDER, in particular, not

Digitized by Google

less accomplished with preparatory learning, while possessed of as vigorous a mind, has resumed the subject with the happiest success. Like Aristotle, who developed his principles of criticism from the poets of Greece, Herder had recourse to those of the Bible; and having considered nature, religion, manners and customs, with their respective peculiarities, as connected with his subject, has placed their productions in the most interesting light. Dr. Hurdis's attempt is somewhat similar, but without imitation, for he never appears to have heard even of Herder's :—we wish we could say he had rivaled or excelled this accomplished critic of the continent.

ART. VIII.—*The Poetical Works of Hector Macneill, Esq.* 2 *Vols.* 8*vo.* 14*s. Boards.* Longman *and* Rees. 1801.

IT gives us pleasure to find that this very interesting writer, to several of whose productions, when published separately, we have already paid the tribute of our approbation, has at length presented to the world a complete collection of his poems. Some of his most popular pieces being out of print, and continuing in great demand, he has, he tells us, at the solicitation of the booksellers, re-published them, and along with them all the other poems which he means to acknowledge. In making the selection from his MSS, Mr. Macneill expresses his fears that in some instances he may have been influenced more by a gratification of his own taste than a consideration of what would gratify the taste of others.

'There are,' says he, 'certain events in the early stages of life, which, on a retrospect, interest and charm perhaps beyond any other. Among these, scenes and circumstances annexed to youth and passion cannot fail to be remembered with peculiar pleasure, while the occasional and unpremeditated effusions which commemorate the joys that are past, and the friends that are no more, become, even with their faults, the children of our affection.' P. vi.

We believe that most readers of taste and feeling will learn with pleasure that the poet, whose works they are about to peruse an account of, has written on topics in which not his fancy merely, but his heart at the same time, has been interested. In reviewing the history of the poetry of every nation, it will be found that such passages as have called forth the unfeigned sensibility of their respective authors possess a peculiar charm, that these have formed in many instances the living principle of their attempts, and have secured to them immortality; after the mere abstractions of fancy, the splendid frost-works of the imagination, have ceased to excite either wonder or applause.

Digitized by Google

The first poem in this collection is the celebrated *History o' Will and Jean* *, or *Scotland's Scaith.* It appears by an advertisement prefixed, that Mr. Macneill wrote this moral tale at the instance, or at least with the knowledge and approbation, of the late Dr. Doig, the learned master of the grammar-school of Stirling, his particular friend, by whom, and under whose name, it was originally published.

Its object is to describe the baneful effects of spirituous liquors on the morals and happiness of the laboring poor. The hero is the very model of manly strength and beauty, with an affectionate and generous heart. The heroine is endued with all the charms and virtues befitting her humble situation. They meet, are mutually enamoured, marry, and pass three years in contentment and happiness. In an evil hour, Will is enticed into a house licensed to sell British spirits, *i. e.* whiskey. He becomes intoxicated, and repents, but sins again; at length he acquires a habit of swearing, and becomes hardened—Jean's patience is exhausted; and discontent and reproaches succeed to love and harmony in their once happy cottage.—Will alienates himself from home, becomes a politician, and forgets his own affairs: he soon degenerates into a downright profligate, and enlists for a soldier.—Jean, distrayed in her temper, her beauty, her health, and peace, is turned out of her dwelling, and thrown, with her infant children, a beggar on the world. The progress of their ruin is pourtrayed with a degree of truth, simplicity, and pathos, which irresistibly engages the attention, and affects the heart.

We have been told that the original intention of Mr. Macneill was to have composed a ballad that might have been sung in the streets and distributed from the stalls; and in this form was this beautiful pastoral first printed, without a name. But its merits could not be concealed; the phænomenon of such a poem being thrown on the public in such a form excited surprise and admiration; it sold with unexampled rapidity—ten thousand copies having been disposed of in a few months.

The success of this poem, and perhaps the benevolence of the author, induced him to continue the story in a second part, entitled the *Waes o' War* †. The sufferings of Jean with her infants at last terminate by their finding a retreat in the Valley of Roslin, where, after the miseries of the campaign in Flanders under the duke of York, in the course of which he loses a leg and is left for dead in the field of battle, Will at last joins them, and, instructed by adversity, learns to appreciate justly the blessings of industry and innocence; and we are left

* See our 13th vol. New Arr. p 355.

† Woes of War.—See our 17th vol. New Arr. p. 231.

Digitized by Google

to suppose that this once happy pair are restored to peace and content.

The second part of Will and Jean, or the *Waes o' War*, is beautiful: in the ornaments of poetry it is superior to the first. The miseries of war in a defeated and retreating army are finely contrasted with the charms of peaceful nature in the beautiful Valley of Roslin, and the meeting of Will and Jean is drawn by the hand of a master:

> 'Thrice he kissed his long lost treasure!
> Thrice each child—but could not speak:
> Tears of love, and hope, and pleasure,
> Streamed in silence down his cheek.' Vol. i. p. 65.

But, after all, it may be questioned whether this continuation of the story does not take off somewhat from the unity of design, and the general effect of the poem as originally written. In this point of view, the addition to *Will and Jean* operates in some measure like the addition made by the author's countryman, Dr. Beattie, to his exquisite poem *The Hermit*. The doctor yielded, we have been told, to the remonstrances of those who could not bear that his high-souled sage should be left in 'darkness forlorn.'—Similar motives may have occasioned the second part of *Will and Jean*.

The poetical merit of the former part of this poem, great as it is, is inferior to its merit in a moral point of view. It is not easy to conceive any poem, or indeed any composition, to be better calculated for remedying the evil against which it is directed, or any evil that more loudly calls for a remedy. The consumption of spirits is the bane of the poor in every part of the united islands; but the consumption of Scotland is in a far greater proportion to its population than that of England or Ireland (we speak from certain information); and it increases with a rapidity that threatens every evil, physical and moral.

Next in succession is a poem '*To Eliza on her Marriage*,' which is gay and Horatian. The same character may be given to several succeeding epistles to ladies who were friends of the author. In these Mr. Macneill appears in a new character; and those who possess the volumes will in general acknowledge that he acquits himself with great success.

Of *The Harp*, a legendary tale in two parts, the reader will find a pretty full account in our journal, at the time of its original publication*. In the present edition we think it considerably improved, and are flattered by perceiving that the author has attended to some of our criticisms: we wish, however, he

* See vol. LXVIII. O. S. p. 125.

Digitized by Google

had struck out the last four lines, which we still think feeble and expletive.

By an advertisement prefixed to this poem, we learn that Mr. Ramsay, of Auchtertyre in Stirlingshire, who appears to such advantage as the correspondent of Burns during a tour through the Hebrides, heard, in conversation, the expression, 'I'll never burn my harp for a woman.' On inquiring into the meaning and origin of this proverb, he understood that it was founded on the story of a celebrated harper, who, it would appear, had, in a situation of great distress, burnt his harp for want of other fuel, to save his wife from perishing by cold; but had been repaid with ingratitude, the lady having soon afterwards deserted him for another. On this simple structure Mr. Macneill has built a poem of various incident, and of considerable extent. Here his language is pure English; but the ancient Scottish ballad is his model. *The Harp* is dramatic, descriptive, and pathetic; and we should be tempted to enlarge again on its merits, did our limits permit.

In these volumes we find several songs in the Scottish manner and dialect, which are in general written with great taste, simplicity, and delicacy. In these compositions Mr. Macneill excels all his predecessors, the Ayrshire ploughman excepted, with whom, nevertheless, he may stand a comparison.

We shall select one as a specimen that has not before been in print, so far as we have observed, making some slight changes in the orthography for the sake of English readers.

'JEANIE'S BLACK EE.

'Air.—*Cauld frosty Morning.*

'The sun rose so rosy, the grey hills adorning!
Light sprung the lavroc * and mounted so hie †;
When true to the tryst ‡ of blythe May's dewy morning
My Jeanie came linking § out o'er the green lea.
To mark her impatience, I crept 'mong the brakens ‖,
Oft—oft to the known path she turn'd her black ee ¶;
Then lying down dowylie **, sighed by the willow tree,
'Ha me mohátel na dousku me ††.'

'Soft through the green birches I stole to my jewel,
Streik'd ‡‡ on spring's carpet beneath the saugh tree!
"Think not, dear lassie, thy Willie's been cruel,"—
'Ha me mohátel na dousku me,'—
"With love's warm sensations I've marked your impatience,
Lang hid 'mong the brakens I watched your black ee—
You're not sleeping, pawkie §§ Jean! open these lovely een!"
'Ha me mohátel na dousku me!'

---

* Lark. † High—pronounced hee. ‡ Appointment.
§ Tripping lightly. ‖ Ferr. ¶ Eye. ** Softly, sadly
†† Erse—'I am asleep, do not waken me'—the lady speaks.
‡‡ Stretched. §§ Cunning, sly.

Digitized by Google

" Bright is the whin's bloom each green knaw * adorning,
Sweet is the primrose bespangled with dew!
Yonder comes Peggy to welcome May morning!
Dark wave her † haffet-locks o'er her fair brow!
O! light! light she's dancing keen on the smooth daisied green,
Barefoot and kiltet ‡ half up to the knee!
While Jeanie is sleeping still, I'll run and sport my fill,"—
' I was asleep, and you've wakened me.'

" I'll run and whirl her round; Jeanie is sleeping sound;
Kiss her! and kiss her! there's no one can see!
Sweet! sweet's her honey mou!§" ' Well, I'm not sleeping now,
I was asleep, but ye wakened me.'
Laughing till like to drap, swift to my Jean I lap,
Kissed her ripe roses, and blest her black ee!
And ay since whene'er we meet, sing, for the song is sweet,
Ha me mohátel na dousku me.' Vol. ii. p. 87.

The elegy on the death of a beautiful boy in Jamaica, in pure English, pleases us much more than that on the death of the author's friend Dr. Doig, in the Scottish dialect and stanza. The occasion was a serious one, and was no doubt felt as such by Mr. Macneill. But we cannot sympathise with the sorrows of a man evidently so polished, who laments the loss of a friend, and that friend a great scholar, in broad Scotch. This is the only instance of ill taste we have found in these volumes.

In his *Epistle to C. L.* and in several other poems, our author shows a very happy vein of humor, more correct, and scarcely less poignant than that of Burns. In his *Links o' Forth* and his *Scottish Muse*, he challenges a still more direct comparison with that powerful genius. In these poems he adopts the favourite stanza of Burns, describing the scenery of his infancy, and touches on the incidents of his riper years. In the *Vision*, Coila, the tutelary spirit of his native district, addresses Burns, relates the incidents of his infancy, describes the dawnings of his genius, avows her favor and guardianship, and, under the pressure of poverty and neglect, displays the consolations she has to offer, and breathes into his soul the lofty aspirations, the unconquerable spirit of the bard. In like manner, in the last of the two poems above mentioned, the Muse addresses Macneill. The state of the poet is different, and so is her strain.

' Ill fated wand'rer! doomed to mane!
Wan sufferer! bleached with care and pain!

* Knoll. † The side of the face—the temples. ‡ Having her clothes tucked up.
§ Honey-mouth.—In order to understand this song, it must be observed that the chorus, except in the last instance, is always repeated by the lady. In the rest of the song it is the lover that speaks.

Digitized by Google

How changed, alas! since vogie vain,
With spirits light,
Ye hail'd me first in untaught strain
On Strevlin's * height.

* * * * *

'Twas then, entranc'd in am'rous sang,
I mark'd you midst the rural throng;
Ardent and keen, the whole day lang
With nature tane,
Slip frae the crowd and mix amang
Her simple train.

'Twas then I saw (alas! owre clear!)
Your future thriftless, lost career!
And while I blamed, wi' boding fear,
The tuneful art,
Your moral pride and truth sincere
Aye won my heart.' Vol. ii. p. 130.

With all deference to the author, we suspect it was not the 'Muse' that blamed the 'tuneful art.' This must have been some of the offspring of Mammon, some spirit of darkness in the colors of light. The Muse brings with her 'airs from heaven;'—this spirit, if she bring not 'blasts from hell,' breathes at least the cold damps of worldly prudence.

But passing over this mistake, we learn that this thriftless career compelled the author to leave his retreat and engage in the more active scenes of life. He flew to the East-Indies, and thence to the West-Indies,—the muse still following him.

'Whether to east or westward borne,
(Or flush'd with joy or wae-forlorn)
Ye hail'd the fragrant breath o'morn
Frae orange flower,
Or cassia-bud, or logwood thorn,
Or guava bower:

'Or frae the mist-cap'd mountain blue
Inhal'd the spicy gales that flew
Rich from pimento's groves that grew
In deep'ning green,
Crown'd with their flowers o' milk-white hue
In dazzling sheen!

* * * * *

'Or 'neath the tam'rind's shelt'ring gloom,
Drank coolness wafted in perfume,
Fresh frae the shaddack's golden bloom,
As flutt'ring gay
Humm'd soft the bird o' peerless plume,
Frae spray to spray!

* Stirling's.

Digitized by Google

'— Whether at eve, wi' raptur'd breast
The shelving palm-girt beach ye prest,
And eyed, entranced, the purpling west
Bepictured o'er,
As Ocean murm'ring gently kissed
The whitening shore.

'Whether at twilight's parting day
Ye held your solemn musing way,
Where through the gloom in myriad ray
The fire-flies gleam;
And 'thwart the grove in harmless play
The light'nings stream!

'Or, by the moon's bright radiance led,
Roam'd late the Guinea-verdured glade,
Where tower'd the giant ceiba's shade;
And, loftier still,
The cabbage rears its regal head
O'er palm-crowned hill.

'Still following close, still whisp'ring near
The Muse aye caught your list'ning ear;' &c.
Vol. ii. p. 138.

This very fine description of the West-Indian landscape has, we apprehend, all the merit of exactitude; and we doubt whether the scenery of the Caribbean islands was ever before depicted in so animated a strain of poetry.

In these wanderings we learn that the author's youth passed away, and that he at length returned to his favorite haunts, to 'Strevlin's heights' and 'Aichil brae.'

''Twas then the Muse taught him to tune his native reed;'—in other words, our poet then began to write in the Scottish dialect. It was put into his hand by the Muse,—

''Tween past'ral Tweed and wand'ring Ayr,
Where unbusk'd nature blooms so fair!
And many a wild note soft and clear
Sings sweet by turns,
Tuned by my winsome Allan's ear
And fav'rite Burns.' Vol. ii. p. 144.

On the delights which this new engagement produced, the Muse descants, and then proceeds—

'These times are gone!—ah! welladay!
For health has flown with spirits gay;
Youth too has fled! and cauld decay
Comes creeping on;
October's sun cheers not like May
That brightly shone!' Vol. ii. p. 145.

Digitized by Google

Various consolations are however offered through several affecting stanzas.

'Catch then the dream! nor count it vain,
Hope's dream's the sweetest balm o' pain:
Heav'n's unseen joys may yet remain,
And yet draw near ye:
Meanwhile, ye see, I hear your moan,
And flee to cheer ye.

* * * * *

'The flatterer ceased, and smiled adieu!
Just wav'd her hand, and mild withdrew.
Cheered with the picture (false or true)
I checked despair,
And frae that moment made a vow
To—mourn nae mair.' Vol. ii. p. 148.

The quotations we have given, and several of Mr. Macneill's other poems, particularly his ode to Grandeur, and his verses on the death of sir Ralph Abercrombie, show considerable strength and elevation of fancy. But tenderness, delicacy, and sensibility, are the most striking characteristics of his Muse. He is everywhere true to nature and passion, and touches with a skilful hand the finest chords of the heart. As a moral writer, he is without a stain—uniformly faithful to the cause of innocence and the interests of virtue. He appears to write under the frequent recurrence of pain and sickness. We should be happy if our plaudits could soothe his sufferings—happy if we could anticipate the voice of posterity, and breathe into the ear of the living poet those grateful accents with which future generations will hallow his dust!

ART. IX.—*A Tour through the Batavian Republic during the latter Part of the Year* 1800: *containing an Account of the Revolution and recent Events in that Country. By R. Fell.* 8*vo.* 8*s.* 6*d. Boards.* Phillips. 1801.

THE writer of these letters was taken prisoner by a French privateer near the coast of Yorkshire, and carried into Holland, where he obtained permission to make a tour through the country, and was thus enabled to collect accurate information respecting the state of the Batavian republic during the period of his residence in it. His observations are in general interesting, and communicated in an easy familiar manner. In the course of his tour, he visited Delft, Rotterdam, the Hague, Scheveling, the place whence the stadtholder embarked for England, Leyden, Haerlem, Amsterdam, Utrecht, and Nimeguen, traveling in *treckschuyts* the common conveyances of the country, and noting

Digitized by Google

down whatever was peculiarly striking in the manners of the Dutch, or had originated from the late revolution in their government. Few Englishmen seem to have a true idea of this revolution; and it is imagined by the majority, not only that the old constitution has been entirely subverted, but that every vestige of liberty has been utterly destroyed, and the Dutch been made the mere tools of Gallic despotism. This publication gives a very different representation; and the French, as a people, are said to be preferred by the inhabitants either to the English or to the family of the late stadtholder. Their old and genuine constitution had been destroyed by the Orange party before the troubles of France commenced. In consequence of those troubles and the war which followed, the exiled Dutch returned into their own country with stronger sentiments of aversion to the stadtholder and the aristocratic faction; the principles of democracy gained the ascendency, and the sovereignty of the people was acknowledged. Many individuals have suffered very much in their property: but the general manners of the people appear to have been little changed; and the return of peace, if it should be connected with their ancient love of accumulation, will soon recall a large portion of the treasures of the world to the bank of Amsterdam.

The most singular feature that has of late been exhibited in the country is the remarkable aversion entertained for the stadtholder and his family—a family which was once the pride of every Dutchman, and under whose auspices the most glorious struggles have been made in the great cause of liberty. It required a long course of years, and a particular line of conduct, to destroy the attachment to the house of Orange; but this retreat of its head from Holland, like that of our James II. from England, seems to have been fatal to its interests. For a considerable time the stadtholders—

'—had shed a lustre on the republic by their great abilities, which concealed their designs against the liberties of the people; but William V. inherited the ambition of his ancestors, without any pretensions to their splendid talents. His reign (if I may be permitted to use that term to denominate an authority almost regal) was marked by a succession of disasters, and closed with the conquest of his country and his precipitate flight. If a long train of circumstances, for which the stadtholder could not be blamed, had impaired the resources and weakened the energies of the republic, its fall was undoubtedly accelerated by the feeble and impolitic administration of that prince and his ministers. But the chief cause of his unpopularity, and of the extravagant joy that was displayed on his departure, was his attachment to the court of London. The Dutch had long viewed with bitter jealousy, on account of their own impoverished trade, the flourishing commerce of the British empire; and a mysterious connexion,

Digitized by Google

highly unfavourable to the republic, was supposed to exist between the stadtholder and the English government.

'It was reported (with what truth I cannot determine) and received with avidity, that the battle of the Dogger Bank, a combat honourable to the Dutch marine, was fought in disobedience to the orders of the admiral-general; and amongst other rumours then circulated and afterwards revived, it was said, that when the news of the battle arrived at the Hague, the stadtholder expressed his satisfaction that the English had not lost any ships. A naval officer, extremely well disposed to the new government, to whom in conversation I applied for information on the subject, assured me of his entire disbelief of either reports; and it is probable, had any evidence existed of orders given by the stadtholder to his admirals to avoid the English fleet, the directory would have published a fact so disgraceful to the prince of Orange.

'But if we reject, as originating in the malice of party, the story which accuses the stadtholder of absolutely betraying his country, and expressing a most unnatural joy at the success of its enemies, it is certain his partiality for England was so plainly manifested as to excite universal discontent, not only in the great commercial cities of the United Provinces, which regarded Great-Britain as the dangerous and insidious rival of their trade, but at the Hague and other places where the personal influence of the prince of Orange might be supposed to be considerable.

'These discontents, shortly after the restoration of peace, ripened into open insurrection, and the stadtholder would have been dismissed with ignominy from his government, had not Prussia and Great-Britain interfered for the preservation of his authority. The arms of one of these powers, and the threats of the other, maintained the prince of Orange in his offices, and even procured for him an accession of power. But his forcible re-establishment in the stadtholderate by the violent interference of foreign powers gave great offence to the moderate as well as to the republican party, and in proportion as the prince's authority was augmented the respect to his character was diminished. The zealous republicans, who with difficulty would have tolerated a stadtholder of the most profound talents, beheld with vivid indignation that high dignity, at a crisis which demanded consummate abilities, filled by a prince of a very limited capacity; and the notion was extensively circulated by the mischievous activity of party, that the calamities of the nation were to be attributed solely to the mal-administration of the prince.' P. 96.

France is disgraced by the blood spilled in its civil contests. The triumph of the Orange party in 1788 was marked by the proscriptions of its enemies.

'It is most honourable to all who were concerned in the subversion of the ancient government of the United Provinces, a government which had subsisted two hundred years, respected in its foreign and domestic relations, and enjoying all the advantages of prescription and long establishment, that not one drop of human blood was judicially shed on its overthrow. I was at great pains to gather what

Digitized by Google

would probably have been the fate of the stadtholder and his family, had they awaited in Holland the storm that burst over their unfortunate house; and amidst a great diversity of opinions, the prevailing sentiment was, that they would have been banished from the territories of the republic. This opinion is corroborated by the knowledge of the influence which the king of Prussia, at that time negotiating with France, possessed in the councils of that republic; and he certainly would have averted, either by threats or force, any violence from being offered to the princess of Orange his sister, or her family. But undoubtedly, under the alarming circumstances in which they were placed, the wisest measure which the family of Orange could pursue was that which they adopted; for had they remained at the Hague till the arrival of the enemy, had their personal safeties not been endangered, they must have suffered many indignities, and been harassed with much anxiety and alarm.' P. 106.

The effects of the stoppage of the English bank are likely to be severely felt in future by British travelers.

'The exchange between Rotterdam and London on bills payable three days after sight is at the difference of the enormous sum of twelve *per cent.* in favour of the former city. This difference is not so much caused by the balance of trade, which is to the advantage of Rotterdam, as by the ideas which prevail on the continent of the financial embarrassments of the British nation, and the depreciation which the notes of the bank of England have undergone since that body has ceased to issue cash for their paper. Could I have given bills on Hamburgh I could have had cash for them almost at par; or could I have engaged that my drafts should be paid in London with specie, the difference in the exchange would have been considerably less. It is the opinion of very intelligent merchants at Rotterdam, that whenever peace is restored to Europe, should the bank of England not resume paying its notes in cash, the exchange with London will be still more unfavourable to that city; for then, in every commercial sense, the bank must be accounted insolvent, and its paper of no more value than French assignats.' P. 146.

The stoppage of the bank of England is an important æra in the history of banking; and the fate of the bank of Amsterdam must be an object of general curiosity to the commercial world. The account given of it in this work seems to have been the result of accurate information, and affords matter for much serious reflexion.

'A few years ago the bank of Amsterdam was supposed to contain the greatest quantity of accumulated treasures in the world. It was accounted the store-house of Europe for the precious metals; and various estimates have been formed of its wealth, from the incredible sum of forty millions sterling, to the equally suspicious estimate of three hundred thousand pounds. The bank of Amsterdam was a bank of deposit, and the credit on its books was thought to be rigorously proportioned with the treasures in its coffers. This was indeed the spirit of the institution; for though the vulgar idea

Digitized by Google

was unfounded, that no money once deposited in this bank could ever afterwards be withdrawn, it invariably professed to keep in its repositories a quantity of money or bullion equal to the sums for which credit was given on its books. In 1672, when the forces of Lewis XIV. almost thundered at the gates of Amsterdam, and the republic was filled with consternation, all demands on the bank were honourably and instantaneously discharged, and the proofs of its solvency ostentatiously displayed.

'From that period, till again in 1795 the armies of France hovered on the frontier of the republic, the bank of Amsterdam enjoyed an almost uninterrupted course of commercial confidence. The magistrates of various parties, to whose integrity the direction of the bank was successively intrusted, never accused their predecessors of any improper use of its treasures; and therefore, though some suspicions were entertained and propagated that the bank occasionally accommodated the government with specie, these suspicions, being discountenanced by the persons possessed of the best information on the subject, were disregarded as the effects of party malice. It was also a kind of commercial heresy to doubt the stability of the bank of Amsterdam; and therefore all rumours to its disadvantage were not only received by the mercantile world with coldness, but repressed with acrimony.

'The arrival of the French in Amsterdam, and the establishment of the patriotic party in power, at length produced a complete investigation of the affairs of the bank. It appeared from the official report, published by order of the provisional representatives of Amsterdam, on this subject, that for the last fifty years the bank had occasionally advanced on bond to the India company, under guarantee of the city of Amsterdam, various sums, amounting on the whole to upwards of six million florins. In a similar way the provinces of Holland and West Friesland were indebted to the bank nearly a million florins. The loan-office of Amsterdam had contracted with the bank a debt of one million seven hundred and fifty thousand florins, and the city was otherwise in arrears with the bank upwards of four hundred thousand florins—the whole amounting to upwards of nine million florins, or rather more than eight hundred thousand pounds sterling. For the whole of this sum there had originally been investments of cash or bullion in the bank; to remove one florin of which, by way of loan, was a violation of the compact between the bank and its creditors. But if the money so disposed of, instead of being hoarded up in the coffers of the bank, in a duplicate ratio increased the circulating medium of the country, efficiently by the cash so issued from the strong chests of the bank, and virtually by the credit which it possessed from the imaginary treasure lodged in it, giving confidence and activity to commerce, and facilitating all the operations of trade, in a mercantile point of view, the conduct of the directors, in thus departing from the letter of their establishment, was to be applauded rather than condemned.

'The merchants of Amsterdam, however, thought otherwise. This deficiency in the sacred deposits of the bank excited the most vivid indignation against all who had been concerned in the manage-

Digitized by Google

ment of that institution, and the spirit of party tended to keep alive and heighten the flames of commercial resentment.

'The money thus taken from the coffers of the bank could at no time have been claimed by its creditors, being an accumulation of treasure for which the receipts were expired, by which alone payment could be demanded. The nature of these receipts, by which alone cash could be drawn from the bank of Amsterdam, may be briefly explained. When a person deposited cash or bullion in the bank, he obtained credit in its books for the sum which he so invested, and a receipt, by which, within the period of six months, after cancelling the credit that he had obtained, he could draw his cash or bullion from the bank. These receipts were renewable on payment of a small per centage to the bank, as warehouse rent for the cash lodged in it. If they were permitted to expire, the money or bullion for which they were granted could not be withdrawn from the bank, but the person who had so invested it possessed an equivalent bank credit; which, however, he could convert into cash, by purchasing a receipt for the sum that he wanted in the stock-market, where they were generally to be sold.

'Of the cash and bullion which had fallen to the bank, or rather was become or ought to have been locked up in it, from the expiration of these receipts, not a single florin remained; and the amount of this mighty and boasted treasure, had it been carefully stored in the vaults and caves of the bank, would not have reached the sum of one million sterling.' P. 293.

This vacuum in the treasure of the bank might have led to very serious consequences; but, with admirable prudence, the provisional representatives of Amsterdam prevented the effusion of blood. The affairs of the East and West-India companies were examined—the holders of bank credit were informed that they were at liberty to withdraw their money whenever they thought proper—the bank was recalled to its original institution; and, in giving a full account of its resources, the representatives declare, that 'they desire by no means to be considered as approving of or confirming the use that may have been made of the deposits of the bank, and much less of discharging by any thing in this proclamation those who may be reprehensible on that subject.'

Among ourselves, Holland is considered as completely ruined; among the Dutch the same opinion is entertained of England; and though the general loss sustained by the former country, from the demands of the French, cannot be estimated at much less than 40 *per cent.* on its whole capital, it was urged by a Dutch merchant, and 'with great plausibility, that England had suffered an equal, if not a more serious diminution of its capital, from the enormous debt incurred by the war, and the profligate expenditure of its ministers.'

'No opinion prevails in Holland more generally than that, whenever peace is restored to Europe, a national bankruptcy will take

Digitized by Google

place in Great-Britain; and this persuasion is so firmly established, that many of the Dutch who have property in the English funds account it of no more value than their French assignats.' p. 352.

From the extracts we have given, our readers will form a favorable judgement of the talents of the writer, whose description of the mode of traveling, the principal towns, and the peculiar manners of the inhabitants, affords a considerable fund of information and entertainment. The Dutch character is presented in a more amiable point of view than we have lately, from political prejudices, been accustomed to contemplate it; and as the return of peace promises to re-establish the accustomed intercourse between the two countries, the merchant and the traveler will equally find their interest concerned in consulting this publication. Reflecting upon the ancient virtues of the Batavian character, we were happy to find that the present generation is by no means lost to the world. The insinuations of many party writers are herein corrected by more authentic statements; and a more charitable opinion of our neighbours is very strenuously inculcated.

'Whatever changes the revolution may have produced in the manners and habits of the Dutch, I am persuaded that there remains in the nation a rich fund of *old* Batavian virtue, integrity, and honour; that the genuine principles of liberty are no-where better understood, or more fervently admired, though, by the unhappy circumstances of the times, perverted or neglected; that no-where are the domestic and social duties of life more sedulously cultivated.—May the exercise of these virtues speedily be encouraged by the restoration of peace!' p. 378.

ART. X.—*An Historical Tour in Monmouthshire, &c. By William Coxe. Part II.* *(Continued from Vol. XXXIII. p. 251.)*

WE left our interesting traveler in the north-west of this romantic and pleasing country, in that angle which looks on the right into Herefordshire, and on the left into Brecknockshire. He makes many excursions towards different objects on the east and west, before he returns to Abergavenny, whence he visits the iron works at Blaenavon, and proceeds to Pont-y-Pool. The whole of this tour is replete with objects which highly interest the reader. We shall point out only the more prominent features of the journey, or those which to us were most engaging.

Lanthony abbey has employed the pencil of sir Richard Hoare, who has given many different views of it. The situation is in the romantic vale of Ewias, a retreat wild and isolated, but tranquil and soothing. Among our author's other

Digitized by Google

excursions around this neighbourhood, he proceeds to Oldcastle, the seat of the dissolute companion of our Henry V., and who was probably the prototype of Falstaff. Oldcastle died a martyr; so that Shakspeare was obliged to deny the identity of his fat knight with one whose catastrophe was so unsuitable to his profligacy and cowardice. The castle is pulled down, and the farm-house more profitably occupies its place. The general description of the country we shall copy from our author's account of the prospect from the Gaer.

'The Gaer occupying nearly the centre of the great chain which stretches to the north and north-west from Abergavenny, beyond the confines of Herefordshire and Brecknockshire, the situations and forms of the circumjacent mountains are plainly distinguished from its summit. The first of this chain is the Derry, which I have already described as rising from Abergavenny, and which skirts the Hereford road for the space of two miles; the northern side appears sprinkled with underwood, and the summit is crowned by the Sugar Loaf in all its beauty. To the north of the Derry succeeds a bare russet mountain of an oblong form, called the Brynaro, which turns at the scathed elm on the Hereford road, and terminates at the foot of the Gaer. Opposite to the Brynaro, on the eastern side of the Hereford road, rises the Great Skyrrid, in all its ruggedness, with its forked summit eminently conspicuous. To the north of the Brynaro, and to the north-east of the Skyrrid, extends the long line of the Black mountains, separated from the Gaer by the valley of the Honddy, a dark and gloomy mass, sweeping in a semicircular direction, and spreading in various ramifications. In their inmost recesses appears the deep vale of Ewias, and the singular curvature of the dingle, which takes the name of Cwmyoi from its shape, and communicates it to the village, whose romantic situation in the midst of broken crags is peculiarly striking. To the west of the Black mountains, and to the north-west of the Gaer, rises a succession of eminences, bristling with crags innumerable, stretching across Brecknockshire, and lost in the distant counties of Wales. At the foot of the Gaer, I admired the beautiful vale of Langruny, watered by a lively torrent, and terminating at the north-western extremity of the Derry, from which point the Lanwenarth hills border the vale of the Usk, and join the Rolben.

'Beyond this chain of mountains, which I have thus attempted to discriminate, the eye of the spectator glances over the fertile parts of Monmouthshire and Herefordshire, backed by the distant hills in the counties of Worcester, Glocester, and Somerset, and intersected by the æstuary of the Severn.' P. 224.

The iron works at Blaenavon are extensive and important. The mines were formerly worked while the neighbouring hills could afford wood for charcoal, but neglected when the forests were destroyed. After it was discovered that pig-iron might be manufactured with coak—charred pit-coal—the works were resumed, as lodes of iron are covered with those of coal.

Digitized by Google

The ore is sufficiently rich, yielding forty-four pounds of pig-iron in one hundred weight, and the works are carried on with equal judgement and spirit. Fifteen years ago not more than sixty tons of pig-iron were annually manufactured in this county and the contiguous district of Glamorganshire, and no bar-iron attempted: at present the former scarcely falls short of six hundred, and the latter amounts to three hundred tons. The buildings and the rail-road are particularly described; but for these we must refer to the volume, as the accounts would lead us too far.

Pont-y-Pool is a corruption of Pont-ap-Howell, Howell's-bridge; and the place is well known from the manufacture of varnished iron plates bearing its name. This invention is attributed to an agent of Mr. Hanbury, Mr. Thomas Allgood; but the manufacture has decayed in consequence of other establishments, and somewhat from the fluctuations of fashion. Some of the neglect probably arises from the decay of the tinning on the inside, corroded by the iron, which after a little time gives an unpleasing as well as a dirty appearance. The family of Hanbury forms too conspicuous a feature in the picture to be overlooked, and a pretty full account is added of them, particularly of sir Charles Hanbury Williams, so memorable in the annals of gallantry—rather perhaps of libertinism—and politics. The history of this gentleman is resumed in the twenty-ninth chapter, and some important memoirs are added from the family papers. His private life is well known, from the annals of wit and gallantry of the day. His Ode to Mr. Fox, on the marriage of Mr. Hussey with the duchess of Manchester, contained a severe and illiberal satire on the whole Irish nation; and several Irish gentlemen were said to have entered into a combination to affront or to challenge him. The advice of his friends (and a very friendly letter from Mr. Fox is added, from the Pont-y-Pool papers, on this subject) induced him to retire to Monmouthshire. He accepted the embassy to Dresden in 1746; so that the resentment excited by this indiscretion must have long passed away: and the reason which he assigns for accepting the office, viz. melancholy, in consequence of the death of his friend Mr. Winnington, is a more probable one than that commonly imputed to him, to wit, cowardice.

From Pont-y-Pool Mr. Coxe makes an excursion to the west, to the mountainous country watered by the Avon Lwyd, the Ebwy, the Sorwy, and the Rumney rivers, which, rising from the high grounds in the north-west of Monmouthshire, and the south of Brecknockshire, pass southward in an almost parallel direction towards the Bristol Channel, but, slightly converging, empty themselves into the Usk, which falls into the sea at no great distance from the Rumney. This part of the

Digitized by Google

country is very little known; and the excursion was undertaken at the persuasion of Mr. Evans, who informed our author that he would find some Swiss scenes in these 'wilds.' He seems not to have been disappointed. We shall select a passage from his account of these unfrequented regions.

'At the extremity of this moor we approached the descent leading to Cwm Tilery, and I was surprised with the view of an extensive district well peopled, richly wooded, and highly cultivated, almost rivalling the fertile counties of England. Slowly descending from the dreary heath, we looked down with delight upon numerous valleys which abound with romantic scenery, and passed several rills bubbling from the sides of the hill, and swelling the Tilery; beneath us at a distance we distinguished the Little Ebwy, bursting through a deep, narrow, and woody glen, and only visible by its foam glistening through the thick foliage.

'At the bottom of the descent we crossed the Little Ebwy over a stone bridge, and rode along a narrow and rugged path, winding round the precipitous sides of the Beacon mountain, which are thickly clothed with underwood, and occasionally tufted with hanging groves of oak, beech, ash, and alder; the wild raspberry twining in the thickets, and the ground overspread with the wood strawberry. The rapid torrent beneath was sometimes half obscured by the trees, and sometimes re-appeared to view, as it bounded over its rocky channel, illumined by the rays of a mid-day sun.

'This valley is usually called, from the torrent, Ebwy vach, or the vale of the Little Ebwy, but is denominated by the natives, the Valley of the Church: it is bounded on the east by a ridge called Milvre Hill, which separates it from the parishes of Lanfoist and Trevethin, and on the west by the Beacon mountain, which divides it from the valley of the Great Ebwy. At first it was extremely narrow, almost without a single habitation; the foaming torrent filling the whole space between the mountains. As we proceeded the vale expanded, and numerous farm-houses, with small inclosures of corn and pasture, occupied the slopes of the eminences, and spread into the narrow plain on each side of the river; the whitened walls and brown stone roofs of these detached dwellings gave an air of neatness and gaiety to the surrounding landscape.

'Towards the extremity of the vale, we crossed the Little Ebwy, over another stone bridge, to the church, which is beautifully situated in the midst of fields, upon a gentle rise overhanging the torrent. In our way we passed the Istwyth, a lively rill, which descends from a wooded dingle, and in a few paces falls into the Little Ebwy: this stream gives the name of Aberystwith to the scattered village, which is likewise called Blaenau Gwent, or the extremity of Gwentland.' P. 246.

The unornamented construction of the churches, one very simple and beautiful epitaph, and the still remaining belief in goblins, elfs, and fiends, form very pleasing contrasts to some of the other parts of the work.

Digitized by Google

The next excursion was to the south-west, to Crumlin-bridge and Risca, where our author nearly falls in with his former journey in the vicinity of Machen. In this part of the tour, though it be in general pleasing, we find nothing so peculiarly striking as to induce us to dwell on it. The neatness and simplicity of the habitations, the comforts of the peasantry, their bacon, almost, as in other alpine regions in England, their only food, and their national liquor, the *curw*, thick unfermented beer, afford a pleasing picture of an early state of civilisation; yet perhaps chiefly pleasing when viewed at a distance. The road to Abergavenny, though not without its attractions, offers however nothing sufficiently interesting to detain us.

We find nothing which requires our notice till the author's arrival at Monmouth, which he reached by the upper road, through Landeilo Cresseney. The capital of Monmouthshire contains about six hundred houses, and about two thousand six hundred souls. The average number of births is between seventy and eighty; of burials seventy—about one in thirty-seven. There is but little manufacture in this town, for the Monmouth caps are now disused; but the situation on the Monnow and the Wye is delightful, and perhaps Monmouth is one of the most pleasing and romantic towns in the island. Its history is added, but without any particular subject which can long detain us. Its claim to the honor of a Roman station is not decided; but it was certainly fortified at a very early period, perhaps by the Saxons.

In the neighbourhood of Monmouth various branches of the Herbert family are established; and before Mr. Coxe leaves this part of the country, he visits Perthîr, Troy-house, Treowen, and Wonastow. The following anecdote is highly characteristic and entertaining.

'Mr. Lorimer pointed out to me a window remarkable for a curious anecdote relating to the contest for precedence between the rival houses of Perthîr and Werndee, which, though less bloody, was not less obstinate, than that between the houses of York and Lancaster. Mr. Proger dining with a friend at Monmouth, proposed riding to Werndee in the evening, but his friend objecting, because it was late and likely to rain, Mr. Proger replied, "With regard to the lateness of the hour, we shall have moonlight; and should it happen to rain, Perthîr is not far from the road, and my cousin Powell will, I am very sure, give us a night's lodging." They accordingly mounted their horses; but being soon overtaken by a violent shower, rode to Perthîr, and found all the family retired to rest. Mr. Proger, however, calling to his cousin, Mr. Powell opened the window, and looking out, asked, "In the name of wonder, what means all this noise? Who is there?" "It is only I, your cousin Proger of Werndee, who am come to your hospitable door for shelter from the inclemency of the weather, and hope you will be so

Digitized by Google

kind as to give me and my friend a lodging." "What is it you, cousin Proger? You and your friend shall be instantly admitted, but upon one condition, that you will allow, and never hereafter dispute, that I am the head of the family." "What did you say?" returned Mr. Proger. "Why I say, if you expect to pass the night in my house, you must allow that I am the head of the family." "No, sir, I never would admit that; were it to rain swords and daggers, I would ride this night to Werndee, rather than lower the consequence of my family. Come up, Bald, come up." "Stop a moment, cousin Proger, have you not often confessed that the first earl of Pembroke (of the name of Herbert) was the youngest son of Perthir, and will you set yourself above the earls of Pembroke?" "True; I must give place to the earl of Pembroke, because he is a peer of the realm; but still, though a peer, he is of the youngest branch of my family, being descended from the fourth son of Werndee, who was your ancestor, and settled at Perthir; whereas I am descended from the eldest son. Indeed my cousin Jones of Lanarth is of an older branch than you, and yet he never disputes that I am the head of the family." "Why cousin Proger, I have nothing more to say; so good night to you." "Stop a moment, Mr. Powell," said the stranger; "you see how it pours, do admit me at least; I will not dispute with you about our families." "Pray, sir, what is your name, and where do you come from?" "My name is * * *, and I come from the county of * * *." "A Saxon of course: it would be very curious indeed, sir, should I dispute with a Saxon about families; no, sir, you must suffer for the obstinacy of your friend, and so a pleasant ride to you both." P. 316.

The three stones called 'druidical'—some rude British remains, or rather probably a relic of a later æra, as they are formed of a pudding-stone, which is seldom very durable—and the chalybeate waters, both in the neighbourhood of Trelech, are not peculiarly interesting. This town lay in our author's route from Monmouth to Chepstow.

White-castle, Scenfreth, and Grosmont, once 'ingulfed in the immense possessions of the house of Lancaster,' are now included in one hundred, called the hundred of the three castles, and, of course, are described in the same chapter. These castles are situated in the north-east of the county, bordering on Herefordshire to the north of Landeilo Cresseney, which lies between Monmouth and Abergavenny. The history of these castles is not of great importance. John of Kent, once an inhabitant of this district, and a reputed sorcerer, is said to have done much good service, by means of Satan, whom he at last outwitted. He seems to have been a monk of superior learning and knowledge. We remember, in our own time, to have heard various provincial legends of the *Oxford scholars*, who were then reputed to be conjurers. The subject of the thirty-fifth chapter is the navigation of the Wye, from Ross to Monmouth; though, strictly speaking, a part of the journey from

Digitized by Google

Ross to Monmouth is in Herefordshire. The Wye is very serpentine in its course, so that the distance from Ross to Chepstow, which is only sixteen miles and a half, becomes, in consequence of the circuitous navigation of the river, little short of thirty-eight miles.

The navigation of the Wye has been often described, and we need not extract any part of a subject already so well known. If we select any thing, it shall be what has not been before remarked, or what is here placed in a new light. Nothing of this kind occurs in the navigation from Ross to Monmouth. From the capital to Tintern-abbey, the description is more interesting, as it contains an account of the abbey, illustrated as usual, by sir Richard Hoare's characteristic pencil.

'After passing a miserable row of cottages, and forcing our way through a crowd of importunate beggars, we stopped to examine the rich architecture of the west front; but the door being suddenly opened, the inside perspective of the church called forth an instantaneous burst of admiration, and filled me with delight, such as I scarcely ever before experienced on a similar occasion. The eye passes rapidly along a range of elegant gothic pillars, and, glancing under the sublime arches which supported the tower, fixes itself on the splendid relics of the eastern window, the grand termination of the choir.

'From the length of the nave, the height of the walls, the aspiring form of the pointed arches, and the size of the east window, which closes the perspective, the first impressions are those of grandeur and sublimity. But as these emotions subside, and we descend from the contemplation of the whole to the examination of the parts, we are no less struck with the regularity of the plan, the lightness of the architecture, and the delicacy of the ornaments; we feel that elegance is its characteristic no less than grandeur, and that the whole is a combination of the beautiful and the sublime.

'This church was constructed in the shape of a cathedral, and is an excellent specimen of gothic architecture in its greatest purity. The roof is fallen in, and the whole ruin open to the sky, but the shell is entire; all the pillars are standing, except those which divided the nave from the northern aisle, and their situation is marked by the remains of the bases. The four lofty arches which supported the tower spring high in the air, reduced to narrow rims of stone, yet still preserving their original form. The arches and pillars of the choir and transept are complete; the shapes of all the windows may be still discriminated, and the frame of the west window is in perfect preservation; the design of the tracery is extremely elegant, and, when decorated with painted glass, must have produced a fine effect. Critics who censure this window as too broad or its height, do not consider that it was not intended for a particular object, but to harmonise with the general plan; and had the architect diminished the breadth in proportion to the height, the grand effect of the perspective would have been considerably lessened.

Digitized by Google

'The general form of the east window is entire, but the frame is much dilapidated; it occupies the whole breadth of the choir, and is divided into two large and equal compartments, by a slender shaft not less than fifty feet in height, which has an appearance of singular lightness, and, in particular points of view, seems suspended in the air.

'Nature has added her ornaments to the decorations of art; some of the windows are wholly obscured, others partially shaded with tufts of ivy, or edged with lighter foliage; the tendrils creep along the walls, wind round the pillars, wreath the capitals, or, hanging down in clusters, obscure the space beneath.

'Instead of dilapidated fragments overspread with weeds and choked with brambles, the floor is covered with a smooth turf, which, by keeping the original level of the church, exhibits the beauty of its proportions, heightens the effect of the grey stone, gives a relief to the clustered pillars, and affords an easy access to every part. Ornamented fragments of the roof, remains of cornices and columns, rich pieces of sculpture, sepulchral stones and mutilated figures of monks and heroes whose ashes repose within these walls, are scattered on the greensward, and contrast present desolation with former splendor.' P. 352.

The Wye assumes a less sinuous course, and the bordering cliffs are less mountainous, till the traveler arrives in the neighbourhood of Piercefield, where the cliffs become bolder, and the sweeps of the river round their base more singularly striking and picturesque. Chepstow-castle crowns the whole.

The town of Chepstow is situated in a spot singularly beautiful and romantic; but it has been often described, as well as its bridge. The tide is said to rise to an extraordinary height: but, in reality, within the memory of man it has not been found greatly to exceed fifty-six feet, which, though considerable, is not unexampled. The amount of the shipping probably exceeds 3500 tons, for it was so much in 1799; but, including repeated voyages, 1200 vessels annually enter and clear the port. The exports are timber, grain, iron, coal, &c. including paper and cider. The imports are what is required for interior consumption and ship-building (timber excepted). In times of peace the foreign trade is said to be considerable.

The castle of Chepstow is described, with a short history of its various proprietors, together with an account of the famous regicide, Harry Marten. It appears that his republican opinions were formed very early, long before the temper of the times permitted their promulgation, and that he died in the same sentiments.

The last chapter of this work relates to Piercefield, the creation of the famous Valentine Morris, many anecdotes of whom are related, and who finished a varied scene in poverty, after a confinement of seven years in the king's-bench. From the aggravated calamities which befel him—for generosity, care-

Digitized by Google

lessness, and imprudence, were only conspicuous at one period of his life, viz. during his residence at Piercefield—he became insane. His books, and the little gleanings of Mrs. Morris's toilet, had been sold to procure bread! Piercefield has been often described—we will prefer looking at Mr. Morris's benevolence, and conclude our account of this work with an anecdote of a man who deserved a better fate.

'The inhabitants of Chepstow idolise his memory, and relate numerous instances of his benevolence with a warmth of affection which borders on enthusiasm; among others, one which does honour to his feelings should not be omitted.

'Holding one day a conversation with Mr. Knowles, whom he employed in building the alcove, and from whom I received the anecdote, he made inquiries concerning the family of Walters, and asked if any of them were yet living. Knowles replied, that William, the brother of John who sold the estate, was still alive and in great distress. "Bring him to Piercefield," said Morris, "and I will make him welcome." "If you would give him your whole estate he could not walk, he is so much afflicted with the gout in his feet, and earns a precarious livelihood by fishing." "If he cannot then come to me, I will take the first opportunity of calling on him."

'Being some time afterwards engaged with Knowles in forming an opening in the wood, he saw two men in a boat:—"Stay here," he said to Knowles; "I will cross the river in that boat, and examine whether the objects I want to show can be seen from hence." Descending hastily, he hailed the watermen, leaped into the boat, was ferried over, and on his return entered into conversation with the men, and inquired their names and condition. "My name," said one of them, "is *****; I am a native of Chepstow; and that man," pointing to his companion, "is William Walters."—"What, Walters of Piercefield?" exclaimed Morris. "Yes, please your honour, I am the brother of John who sold the estate which you now enjoy." Morris made no reply; but giving a gratuity to each of the men, leaped on shore, rapidly ascended the hill, and rejoining Knowles, cried, "I have been talking with Walters;" taking out several guineas, he added,—"carry these to him, and tell him that he shall never want while it is in my power to assist him." Knowles suggested, that as the man was much addicted to liquor, he would render him more service by a weekly allowance. The next market day one of Morris's servants carried to Walters a joint of meat, and a small sum of money, which were continued weekly until his death. Morris defrayed the expenses of his funeral, and his carriage conveyed the corpse to St. Arvan's, where it was interred in the family vault.' P. 396.

We have noticed very few of the ornaments of this work; and it would greatly lengthen our article to give even a list of the engravings and plans. They are very numerous, and finished more uniformly than we usually find in similar works. To praise the drawings of sir Richard Hoare would be super-

Digitized by Google

fluous. These are executed with peculiar taste and elegance. The views are fifty-five in number; to which are added eleven portraits, seven plans of towns, sixteen ground-plans of ancient castles and encampments. The views only, we believe, were drawn by sir Richard Hoare.

Besides additions to some of the articles, the appendix contains—

'No. 1. Letter from Mr. Owen, author of the Welsh and English Dictionary; containing remarks on the structure of the Welsh language, and on the characteristics of the Gwentian dialect; accompanied with two odes.

'No. 2. A paper on the ancient limits of Morgannoc, or Siluria; extracted from the Myvirian Archæology of Wales, vol. 2.

'No. 3. Account of the encampments of Coed y Caerau, Kemeys Folly, Caerlicyn, Gaer Vawr, and Cwrt y Gaer. Addition to Chapter 5.

'No. 4. Abstract of the charter of Newport in the county of Monmouth; referred to in p. 46. Amount of tonnage on the Monmouthshire canal, for one year, commencing September 9, 1798.

'No. 5. Constitution of the court of sewers, in the level of Wentloog; referred to in chapter 9. Communicated by the Rev. Mr. Evans.

'No. 7. Dissertation on the inscription engraven on a brass plate in the church of Usk, referred to in p. 133; containing explanations by Dr. Wooton, the Rev. Mr. Evans, vicar of St. Woolos, and a letter on the same subject from Mr. Owen.

'No. 8. A true coppie of an antient memorable treatise of record touchinge the progenie & descent of the honourable name and family of the Herberts, by commission from E. 4. an° Dom. 1460; referred to in p. 141.

'No. 13. Translation of a grant in the church chest of Lantilio, or Landeilo Bertholly, Monmouthshire; referred to in p. 205.

'No. 14. Additions to chapter 30.—Fac-simile of the seal of the abbey of Grace Dieu, mentioned in p. 289.—Account of Caeluch.

'No. 16. Papers relative to the trade of Chepstow, referred to in p. 360.

'No. 17. Omission in chapter 40, concerning the genealogy and arms of the Wood family, p. 397.'

Some antiquities lately discovered at Caerleon are added.

In the first number of the appendix, the remarks on the Welsh language, though short, are very interesting; and the two odes are wild and pleasing. We might have enlarged on these and the second number of this appendix, if the Welsh Archæology had not been published.

The subject will however re-attract our attention in its proper place.

The fifth number contains some judicious remarks on the common etymology of Caerleon. The latter part of the word is supposed to denote the station of a Roman legion, and *leon*

Digitized by Google

to be a corruption of the term *legion*. The objections we shall transcribe.

'The facts which I am about to state in evidence are these: In the first place, the Welsh term used for a *legion* is *lleng*, a very common word in all the writings of the different ages; therefore, if the foregoing derivation were true, the name of the town would have been *Caer Lleng*; and which a critic, nay every body who knows the Welsh language, can point out to be very different in structure from *Caer Llëon*, a word of three syllables. The next fact is, that the proper name of the town is *Caer Llion*, and not *Caer Llëon*; and it is always found so in our most ancient manuscripts. The meaning of *caer* is already well known to be any inclosure of defence, or fortification, and in a secondary sense a city.

'I shall proceed to state, as a third fact, the import of *llion* to be, streams, torrents, or floodings—a term often used, in an aggregate sense, for any great body of water; and it is derived from *lli*, which is the singular form of the word, implying a stream or flood, in its popular acceptation. The last fact to be adduced is, the great propriety of the name for the situation of the town on the banks of the river Usk; and probably the situation is, or was formerly, on the extremity of the range of the tides; thus rendering the plural form of the appellation still more descriptive, than if it were only (as it frequently has been used) on account of the vicinity of the river Usk to the town. As to the last-mentioned circumstance you are fully enabled to judge for yourself, which renders it needless for any remarks of mine; and as I have laid down the leading points, which make me dissent from the commonly-received etymology of *Caerlleon*, I commit them in this brief way to your judgement, to draw such an inference as may seem consistent with reason.' P. 417.

The population of Abergavenny is said to exceed two thousand souls. The other numbers of the appendix do not admit of an abstract, or require a more particular notice.

ART. XI.—*Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society of London. For the Year* 1801. *Part II.* 17*s.* 6*d. sewed.* 4*to.* Payne.

'XII. AN HISTORICAL and Anatomical Description of a doubtful amphibious animal of Germany, called by Laurenti, Proteus Anguinus. By Charles Schreibers, M.D. of Vienna. Communicated by the Right Hon. Sir Joseph Banks, Bart. K.B. P.R.S.'

Dr. Schreibers seems much inclined to consider this animal as a perfect one, since, as he observes, there is none found in the lakes of Carniola of which it can be the larva. Naturalists well know that fishes and reptiles are distinguished as they breathe by gills or by lungs. Many years since an animal was discovered which had both these organs of respiration; and Linnæus

Digitized by Google

formed a new order for its reception. Many similar ones have been since discovered: yet, as the first is probably only the larva of a more perfect animal, doubts have arisen respecting the rest. The siren lacertina is consequently removed to fishes under the genus *muræna*, and no naturalist has yet dared to re-establish this new order of the Swedish professor. Scopoli undoubtedly thought it a peculiar genus (*genus singulare*, Ann. Hist. Natur. quintus, p. 74, 75), and Laurenti conceived the same. Linnæus saw only a *drawing* of it, and did not 'hesitate.' He at once decided it to be the larva of a lizard. Hermann and Schneider have adopted the same opinion, and we shall add our own reasons for following them. It must be indeed admitted that every argument on this side should be received with caution, for nature is progressive by gradual shades; and it is, *à priori*, more probable that animals should have been formed with both gills and lungs, than that there should be a chasm of such extent. The great question however must recur, whether the present animal be of this kind?

We think it an imperfect one, because of its regular periodical appearance; and, though the size vary, this must be the case with larvæ of every kind, whose growth is progressive, before their change takes place. At this period too they are usually very voracious, and the proteus anguinus is remarkably so. Another discrimination of an early period is the size of the liver; to which we may add the absence of the organs of generation; for though Dr. Schreibers have described two bladders, which he calls ovaries, there is no reason assigned for considering them as such. His great argument is, that no animal is found in these lakes of which it can be the larva. This however is far from conclusive. Perfect animals are often very distant in form and appearance from larvæ. He himself allows that all the lakes of Carniola communicate by subterraneous passages; and the more perfect animal may reside in the deepest parts, where it is less subject to storms, or be strong enough to resist their power. The anatomical description is curious; and in the specimens which our author examined he discovered eyes, which were formerly supposed to be wanting. The organ however only exists. We do not know that the animal has the sensation of sight.

'XIII. Observations tending to investigate the Nature of the Sun, in order to find the Causes or Symptoms of its variable Emission of Light and Heat; with Remarks on the Use that may possibly be drawn from Solar Observations. By William Herschel, LL.D. F.R.S.'

'XVI. Additional Observations tending to investigate the Symptoms of the variable Emission of the Light and Heat of the Sun; with Trials to set aside darkening Glasses, by transmitting the Solar Rays through Liquids; and a few Remarks

Digitized by Google

to remove Objections that might be made against some of the Arguments contained in the former Paper.' By William Herschel, LL.D. F.R.S.'

These, like the rest of Mr. Herschel's papers, are *curious*—we had almost said *singular*; and in these, perhaps, he has more freely indulged his imagination than in any former ones. We do not object to an hypothesis to illustrate facts, nor indeed as a standard to which they may be brought to ascertain the truth or falsehood of the system; and Mr. Herschel scarcely aims at more, though he carries his illustrations somewhat farther than facts will support him.

The various modifications of the sun's light are distinguished into 'openings, shallows, ridges, nodules, corrugations, indentations, and pores.' It is enough for us to remark, that the sun's light is either defective or in excess. The two first are of the former kind, differing in degree; and the two last are similar, but limited in extent, and differing a little in form. The third, fourth, and fifth, are of the latter class, and the forms are sufficiently discriminated by the appellations. We must detail the author's system in a synthetic form.

In some prior papers, Mr. Herschel has advanced the opinion, that the sun is an opaque body of a planetary nature, admitting of habitation, and probably inhabited. The luminous matter he supposes to be separated from the body, and the light evolved in the higher regions of its atmosphere. The sun, he thinks, has an atmosphere more dense than ours, in consequence of the increased gravitation towards so vast a mass. This atmosphere, whose density is augmented by clouds, is illuminated and seen, by us, in the shallows, from the reflected rays, while we perceive the body of the orb itself in the 'openings' or 'spots.' There must be a cause then which separates the atmospheric clouds and the luminous fluid above, so as to discover the substance of the planet. This cause, if we rightly understand our author, is the emission of an elastic gas from the sun itself, from which the luminous matter is derived, while the power of this gas is not sufficient, when emitted with less force, to separate the clouds and render the body of the sun visible. Thus spots are connected with the ridges, &c. and the apparent want of light is the means of its accumulation. Ridges, nodules, and corrugations, are consequently the marks of accumulated light, and originally derived from the sun, through the vacuities called spots. On examination with the photometer, the surface of the atmosphere reflected 469 rays, and the body of the sun 7 only, when the luminous surface gave 1000.

When we speak of the sun's atmosphere below the luminous fluid, we must be supposed to mean the region of clouds; for our author thinks there may be a clear atmosphere far above

the body of the sun, to the extent of some hundreds of miles; and, in reality, we must be supposed to view the body of the sun only through its atmosphere, which our author thinks to be transparent.

We have not given Mr. Herschel's system in his own words, because we have been able to compact it better, and to separate it from the observations. To those, however, who wish to examine it critically, we would recommend the paper itself. We must add, that the author suspects the sun to be less perfectly luminous on one side than on the other; so that to an observer in another system he would appear to be a star, having periodical variations of light.

All this, it may be said, is hypothetical:—it is indeed so; but it quadrates well with the appearances, and may rest as an hypothesis till other observations confirm or destroy it. Mr. Herschel however builds on it a superstructure, perhaps more hypothetical still. We have remarked that the accumulated light of the sun, according to our author, is connected with its spots, as the channels through which the matter affording light is derived; and that therefore, from the previous spots, fertile seasons may be predicted. He endeavours to establish this by evidence which we think very vague, viz. the average price of wheat in periods subsequent to those distinguished by numerous spots—the causes of and accumulations of light. He seems to think, that when spots have preceded, the seasons have been more genial and fertile. The evidence for this opinion must however be necessarily inconclusive and unsatisfactory. He speaks of proving it also by the meteorological register of the Royal Society, and he *will* prove it in this way; for the morning observation is, as we have often observed, affected by the sun's rays, and consequently the highest degree is too great. What then arises from the sun will easily appear to be owing to it. If he adopt the afternoon heat, he will be nearer the truth.

'XXI. A Continuation of the Experiments and Observations on the Light which is spontaneously emitted from various Bodies; with some Experiments and Observations on Solar Light, when imbibed by Canton's Phosphorus. By Nathaniel Hulme, M.D. F.R.S. and A.S.'

We step on to this article as to a kindred subject, though not very nearly connected with the experiments of Mr. Herschel. Dr. Hulme in this 'continuation,' first examines the effects of different aërial fluids on the spontaneous emission of light. Herrings and other animals, which contain light as a component part, do not, in our author's opinion, emit it, except when exposed to the air. His experiments are not however perfectly conclusive; for the bodies placed in contact with the

Digitized by Google

luminous ones are themselves capable of imbibing light, and therefore, though emitted, it may not be visible, as it is again absorbed. It is better ascertained that the blast of a pair of bellows does not increase the emission of light;—perhaps it could not have been expected. Oxygen gas rendered the light somewhat more vivid than common air, though but slightly so. Azotic gas either prevented the emission of light, or extinguished it: yet the light was preserved in this gas when previously fixed on a cork. This is by no means so remarkable as the author supposes: it may prevent the separation by impeding or checking the decomposition, while it does not effect the light already separated.

Hydrogen and carbonic acid gas not only prevent the emission of light, but extinguish it. Yet the light is not destroyed, for it again appears when exposed to the air of the atmosphere. Sulfurated hydrogen gas is more powerful in its action of extinguishing light, which returns also more slowly in open air. Nitrous gas is more powerful still; and the light, except from the glow-worm, could not be re-produced. A vacuum destroyed light, which the return of air re-illumined.

The next section is on solar light, imbibed by Mr. Canton's phosphorus. Moderate heat rendered the light more vivid, but increased heat extinguished it. Dr. Hulme however, in no part of this paper, considers the light as occasioned by decomposition. He should have pointed out, that, in the latter case, the emission of light was at first extraordinarily vivid. In fact, the heat hastened the complete decomposition, and did not, strictly speaking, *extinguish* the light. He should have remarked also, that phosphorus, kept in a dark state, loses all the light that can be *spontaneously* emitted. It requires the assistance of heat to separate more. The solar light, imbibed by the phosphorus, is subject to the influence of heat and cold, like the light from rotten wood, glow-worms, and fishes. It remains to be inquired, whether it be affected in the same manner by different gasses?

'XIV. Observations on the Structure, and Mode of Growth, of the grinding Teeth of the Wild Boar, and *Animal incognitum*. By Everard Home, Esq. F.R.S.'

Mr. Home having explained the structure of the molares of the elephant and sus Æthiopicus, was led to inquire whether the same structure were observable in the other species of sus. He was disappointed, seemingly, because the age of the animals was not mature enough for the production of the second set of teeth. In the wild boar, which had attained a more mature period, he found a similar formation. In the elephant, the sus Æthiopicus, and the wild boar, only, is found this extension of the masticating surface of the grinding-teeth. In these also

Digitized by Google

the last permanent tooth is formed before the temporary ones are shed. We shall add the following observations without a remark.

'In the human species, the mode of dentition is upon the same principle as in the wild boar; only the last-formed grinding-teeth in each jaw, called dentes sapientiæ, from the late period of life at which they cut the gum, do not in size exceed the others, but are rather smaller, and very often have not sufficient room in the jaw to come into their regular place, although they do not make their appearance till between twenty and thirty years of age.

'In the negro, the dentes sapientiæ have sufficient room to come into their place, and are in general full as large as the other grinders; the growth of the posterior part of the jaw being evidently greater than in the European.

'When the age of man was much greater than at present, it is natural to suppose the growth of the posterior part of the jaw was continued for a longer time, and the space for the dentes sapientiæ was more extensive. Under such circumstances, these teeth would probably be large, in proportion to the space which was to receive them; and when, instead of threescore and ten, a thousand years was the period of a man's life, we should be led to conclude, from the preceding observations, that there was a succession of dentes sapientiæ.

'There is a very curious circumstance in favour of this conjecture, which has been mentioned to me by Sir Joseph Banks. In Otaheite, the natives have a tradition, that Adam, or the first man, was remarkable for the length of his jaws. His name, in their language, is *Taa roa tahi etoomoo*, which signifies the one (the stock) from which all others sprung, with the long jaws; so that these islanders have a tradition of the original race of men having had their jaws much longer than at present.' p. 323.

The teeth of the *animal incognitum*, found on the banks of Ohio in North America, appear to be constructed on the same principle. This is also a long-lived animal, though it be by no means certain that it has tusks. The boar, our author supposes, must be long lived, from its vast bulk often described, and the terror which, at different periods, it has excited.

'XV. Account of some Experiments on the Ascent of the Sap in Trees. In a Letter from Thomas Andrew Knight, Esq. to the Right Hon. Sir Joseph Banks, Bart. K.B. P.R.S.'

We find it very difficult to understand these experiments, without some better assistance from, or a more minute reference to, the plates. The author seems to have shown, that the nutrition of the bark is from the descending sap, derived from the leaf; and the whole action of each leaf appears to lie between itself and the root. The medulla is by no means necessary to the progress of the sap; and the leaf will perform its office without the aid of this central portion. The following observations merit our attention.

Digitized by Google

'Whilst I was waiting the result of the preceding experiments, I made a few efforts to discover another branch of circulation, namely, that which takes place within the fruit, and conveys nourishment to the future offspring. My experiments were here, however, confined almost entirely to two species of fruit, the apple and the pear; and, therefore, as the organisation of different fruits is evidently different, I do not consider my observations such as can throw much general light on the subject. Examining the fruit-stalks of the apple, the pear, the vine, and some other fruit-trees, I found their organisation to be nearly similar to that of the branch from which they sprang, and to consist of the medulla, the central tubes, a very small portion of wood, the spiral tubes and those of the bark, and the two external skins. Tracing the progress of these in the full-grown fruits of the apple and pear, I found, as Linnæus has described, that the medulla appeared to end in the pistilla. The central vessels diverged round the core, and, approaching each other again in the eye of the fruit, seemed to end in ten points at the base of the stamina, to which I believe they give existence. The spiral tubes, which are in all other parts appendages to these vessels, I could not trace beyond the commencement of the core; but, as the vessels themselves extend through the whole fruit, it is probable that the spiral tubes may have escaped my observation. Linnæus supposes the stamina to arise from the wood. I should not venture to state an opinion in opposition to his; but I believe he has not any where distinguished those I call the central vessels, from the common tubes of the wood.

'Having hitherto found that all advancing fluids appeared to pass either along the tubes of the alburnum, or along the central vessels, I had little doubt that the fruit was fed through the latter; but my efforts to ascertain this, in the autumn of 1799, were not successful. In the last spring I was more fortunate. Placing small branches of the apple, the pear, and the vine, with blossoms not yet expanded, in a decoction of logwood, I found that the colouring matter readily passed up the central tubes of the fruit-stalks of all; and, in the apple and pear, I easily traced it, through the future fruit, to the base of the stamina. The office of the tubes in the bark did not appear in this experiment; but, as I have reason to believe the motion of the sap in the bark to be always retrograde, I am disposed to conclude that it is so here, and that, through the bark of the stalk, any superfluous humour existing in the fruit, from excessive humidity of weather, or other cause, is carried back and absorbed by the tree. I have, however, very frequently repeated an experiment on the vine, which, I think, evidently proves that the fluid returned (if any) is essentially different from that which is derived from the leaf. In the culture of this fruit, I have frequently pinched off the young shoot, immediately above a bunch, as soon as the latter became visible in the spring, letting the leaf opposite the bunch remain. In this case, the wood below the upper leaf acquired nearly its proper length and substance. But when I have taken off that leaf, the wood between the bunch and the next leaf below has ceased to elongate, and has remained, in form and substance, similar to the small fruit-stalk attached to it.' P. 339.

Digitized by Google

The fruit of apples and pears is nourished by central vessels; and the internal organisation appears, to our author, to resemble that of the placenta and umbilical cord in the human system. In considering the cause of the ascent of the sap, Mr. Knight rests on the irritability of the vegetable, and transfers to vegetation the doctrine of accumulated and exhausted irritability. His own instance of the peach-tree, at the end of p. 343, is, we think, decisive against it; for the irritability must have been here exhausted. The silver grain, as it is called, diverging from the medulla to the bark, are, it is said, the agents of the propulsion of the sap, and these are affected very powerfully by heat and moisture, even after the tree is sawed into planks. Our author's arguments and observations in support of this idea must be read in the paper; for they would detain us too long, were we to attempt an abstract of them. The medulla Mr. Knight thinks to be a reservoir of moisture; and the heart of the wood, distinguished from the alburnum, is designed, in his opinion, to supply the place of bone.

'As I have not been able to find the spiral tubes any where, except immediately surrounding the medulla in different parts, in the seed, and in the leaf, and as they every where terminate at short distances, I conclude that the sap is not raised by their agency, nor by the central vessels, to which they are appendages; for these extend no greater length downwards than the spiral tubes, and terminate with them, at the external surface of that annual layer of wood to which they belong; and they have not any apparent communication with the similar vessels of the succeeding year. In the lower parts of hollow trees they must long have ceased to exist at all; and in all trees, except very young ones, they are (as it were) ossified within the heart-wood; and those in the annual shoots and buds are often a hundred and fifty feet distant from the roots, from which they are supposed to raise the sap.

'The common tubes of the alburnum (which do not appear to me to have been properly distinguished from the central vessels by the authors that I have read) extend from the points of the annual shoots to the extremities of the roots; and up these tubes the sap most certainly ascends, impelled, I believe, by the agency of the silver grain. At the base of the buds, and in the soft and succulent part of the annual shoot, the alburnum, with the silver grain, ceases to act and to exist; and here, I believe, commences the action of the central vessels, with their appendages, the spiral tubes. By these the sap is carried into the leaves, and exposed to the air and light; and here it seems to acquire (by what means I shall not attempt to decide) the power to generate the various inflammable substances that are found in the plant. It appears to be then brought back again, through the vessels of the leaf stalk, to the bark, and by that to be conveyed to every part of the tree, to add new matter, and to compose its various organs for the succeeding season. When I have in-

Digitized by Google

tentionally shaded the leaves, I have found that the quantity of alburnum deposited has been extremely small.' P. 351.

'XVII. On an improved reflecting Circle. By Joseph de Mendoza Rios, Esq. F.R.S.'

Of this improvement it is impossible to convey an intelligible description.

'XVIII. Observations and Experiments upon Dr. James's Powder; with a Method of preparing, in the humid Way, a similar Substance. By Richard Chenevix, Esq. F.R.S. M.R.I.A.'

The antimonial powder is well known to be a very uncertain preparation of antimony; and few, we believe, with every precaution, can produce it in two different processes of equal strength. Fire, as Mr. Chenevix properly observes, is too precarious and uncertain an agent. It is highly probable that there is no chemical combination of the antimony and the phosphoric acid in this preparation. In the humid way the same ambiguity exists; but the strength of the preparation is more uniform, though the medicine be less active. We shall add the process.

'Dissolve, together or separately, in the least possible portion of muriatic acid, equal parts of the fore-mentioned white oxyd of antimony and phosphat of lime *. Pour this solution gradually into distilled water, previously alkalizated by a sufficient quantity of ammonia. A white and abundant precipitate will take place, which, well washed and dried, is the substitute I propose for Dr. James's powder.' P. 379.

Some satisfactory evidence is added of the similarity of the effects of this powder with those of the common antimonial powder, allowing for its weaker power.

'XIX. Case of a young Gentleman who recovered his Sight when seven Years of Age, after having been deprived of it by Cataracts before he was a Year old; with Remarks. By Mr. James Ware, Surgeon. Communicated by Maxwell Garthshore, M.D. F.R.S.'

We must suppose that the young man had seen objects in

* In order to procure the phosphat of lime, I dissolved in muriatic acid a quantity of calcined bone, and precipitated by ammonia, in its state of greatest causticity. By this means the excess of muriatic acid, which held in solution the phosphat of lime, is saturated, and the phosphat is precipitated; but no muriat of lime is decomposed, if the ammonia is quite free from carbonic acid. This is the most direct method of obtaining phosphat of lime pure. This salt is not decomposed, as some have asserted, by muriatic acid, but merely dissolved by it. I have been induced to state fully the particulars, because, from the beneficial effects of this salt in the treatment of rachitis, as proposed by M. Bonhomme, (*Annales de Chymie*, vol. XVIII. p. 113,) it may become of general use. The oxyd of antimony I obtained by precipitating, by water, the common butter of antimony of the shops.'

Digitized by Google

some imperfect degree, or that Mr. Cheselden's narrative is fabulous. Yet we recollect discovering, among the papers of an old surgeon, a MS. of a similar case; and we recognise no great difference in the representation from that of Mr. Cheselden. We therefore suspect that the same sense which could distinguish colours could give the idea of distance. We shall select the author's recapitulation of the whole paper.

'First, When children are born blind, in consequence of having cataracts in their eyes, they are never so totally deprived of sight as not to be able to distinguish colours; and, though they cannot see the figure of an object, nor even its colour, unless it be placed within a very short distance, they nevertheless can tell whether, when within this distance, it be brought nearer to, or carried farther from them.

'Secondly, In consequence of this power, whilst in a state of comparative blindness, children who have their cataracts removed, are enabled, immediately on the acquisition of sight, to form some judgement of the distance, and even of the outline, of those strongly defined objects with the colour of which they were previously acquainted.

'Thirdly, When children have been born with cataracts, the crystalline humour has generally, if not always, been found either in a soft or fluid state. If, therefore, it be not accompanied with an opacity, either in the anterior or posterior portion of the capsule, and this capsule be largely punctured with the couching needle, introduced in the way in which this instrument is usually employed to depress the cataract, there is reason to expect that the opaque matter will, sooner or later, be absorbed, the pupil become clear, and the sight be restored.

'Fourthly, If, in addition to the opacity of the crystalline humour, its capsule be also opaque, either in its anterior or posterior portion, or in both, (which circumstance cannot be ascertained before the operation,) and, in consequence of this, the operation above mentioned should not prove successful, it will not preclude the performance of extraction afterwards, if this be thought adviseable.

'Fifthly, The operation above mentioned being much more easy to perform than that of extraction, and it being possible to fix the eye with perfect safety during its performance, by means of a speculum oculi, it may be undertaken at a much earlier age than the latter operation; and a chance may of course be given to the patient of receiving instruction, without that loss of time which has usually been thought unavoidable, when children are born with this disorder.' P. 394.

'XX. An Account of some Galvanic Combinations, formed by the Arrangement of single metallic Plates and Fluids, analogous to the new Galvanic Apparatus of Mr. Volta. By Mr. Humphry Davy, Lecturer on Chemistry in the Royal In-

Digitized by Google

stitution. Communicated by Benjamin Count of Rumford, V.P.R.S.'

Mr. Davy, in this article, gives an account of Galvanic piles of different strength. The principle on which Galvanism depends is oxydation; and the two metals must be oxydable in different degrees. This clue has furnished the idea of considerable improvements in the apparatus, which it is not easy to explain satisfactorily in shorter language than that of the author.

'XXII. Experiments on the Chemical Production and Agency of Electricity. By William Hyde Wollaston, M.D. F.R.S.'

In these Galvanic experiments Dr. Wollaston endeavours to show that the power arises from the chemical action of the fluid on the metal, rather than that the oxydation is owing to the electricity, set in motion by the contact of metals. In this ingenious paper Dr. Wollaston has proved very clearly the similarity of the electric and Galvanic powers, and has imitated many of the peculiar effects of Galvanism by the electrical machine. Where amalgam is employed on the cushions, it is necessarily oxydated, and the electricity is negative.

'XXIII. Farther Observations on the Effects which take Place from the Destruction of the Membrana Tympani of the Ear; with an Account of an Operation for the Removal of a particular Species of Deafness. By Mr. Astley Cooper. Communicated by Everard Home, Esq. F.R.S.'

Mr. Cooper has pursued his former ideas on this subject, and is convinced, by the most careful inquiry, that an injury in the membrana tympani does not injure the sense of hearing while the attachment of the malleus continues unimpaired. When three of the four bones are destroyed, hearing is greatly impaired, but, after a little time, in some degree recovered. The deafness which arises from an obstruction of the Eustachian tube may be remedied by puncturing the membrane below the attachment of the malleus; for no vibration can take place unless air be admitted behind. Many instances of the success of this operation are adduced; the means of performing it are added, with the circumstances which prove that the deafness arises from this cause.

The volume concludes with the usual list of presents, and the index.

Digitized by Google

ART. XII.—GLIG-GAMENA ANGEL-DEOD; *or, the Sports and Pastimes of the People of England, &c. By Joseph Strutt.* *(Continued from Vol. XXXIII. p. 361.)*

WE now proceed to the third book of this curious and interesting performance, which relates to pastimes usually exercised in towns and cities, or places adjoining to them. The first chapter of this section chiefly relates to the tournament and similar exercises.

'Tilting, or, as it is most commonly called, *running at the ring*, was also a very fashionable pastime in former days: the *ring* is evidently derived from the *quintain*, and indeed the sport itself is frequently called *running* or *tilting at the quintain*. Thus Commenius, in his Vocabulary, says, "At this day tilting at the quintain is used where a hoop or ring is struck with a lance:" hence it is clear that the ring was put in the place of the quintain. The excellency of the pastime was to ride at full speed, and thrust the point of the lance through the ring, which was supported in a case or sheath, by the means of two springs, but might be readily drawn out by the force of the stroke, and remain upon the top of the lance. The form of the ring, with the sheath, and the manner in which it was attached to the upright supporter, taken from Pluvinel, are given upon the twelfth plate, and also the method of performing the exercise. At the commencement of the seventeenth century the pastime of running at the ring was reduced to a science; the length of the course was measured, and marked out according to the properties of the horses that were to run: for one of the swiftest kind, as Pluvinel informs us, one hundred paces from the starting place to the ring, and thirty paces beyond it, to stop him, were deemed necessary; but for such horses as had been trained to exercise, and were more regular in their movements, eighty paces to the ring, and twenty beyond it, were thought to be sufficient. The ring, says the same author, ought to be placed with much precision, somewhat higher than the left eyebrow of the practitioner, when sitting upon his horse; because it was necessary for him to stoop a little in running towards it.

'In tilting at the ring, three courses were allowed to each candidate; and he who thrust the point of his lance through it the oftenest, or, in case no such thing was done, struck it the most frequently, was the victor: but if it so happened that none of them did either the one or the other, or that they were equally successful, the courses were to be repeated until such time as the superiority of one put an end to the contest.' P. 96.

The account of tournaments is ample, and some remarkable ones are described.

The next chapter relates to ancient theatrical exhibitions—a topic on which we need not dwell, as it has been lately illustrated in several popular works. The bards and minstrels form the subject of another chapter; in which, as in the preceding, Mr. Strutt might have added some curious intelligence from the

Digitized by Google

ancient Scottish poems. It would also seem that Dr. Percy has included distinct professions under the name of minstrels, which term, it is sufficiently clear, denoted musicians alone, and had no connexion either with that of a rhyme-maker or poet, or that of a joculator or juggler. In the account of the latter our author introduces the following feats of activity.

'The *rope-dance*. This species of amusement is certainly very ancient. Terence, in the prologue to Hecyra, complains that the attention of the public was drawn from his play by the exhibitions of a rope-dancer. We are well assured that dancing upon the rope constituted a part of the entertainments presented to the public by the minstrels and joculators; and we can trace it as far back as the thirteenth century: but whether the dancers at that time exhibited upon the slack or tight rope, or upon both, cannot easily be ascertained; and we are equally in the dark respecting the extent of their abilities: but, if we may judge from the existing specimens of other feats of agility performed by them or their companions, we may fairly conclude that they were by no means contemptible artists.

When Isabel of Bavaria, queen to Charles the Sixth of France, made her public entry into Paris, among other extraordinary exhibitions prepared for her reception was the following, recorded by Froissart, who was himself a witness to the fact: "There was a mayster came out of Geane; he had tied a corde upon the hyghest house on the brydge of Saynt Michell over all the houses, and the other ende was tyed to the hyghest tower of our Ladye's churche; and, as the quene passed by, and was in the great streat called Our Ladye's strete; bycause it was late, this sayd mayster, wyth two brinnynge candelles in hys handes, issued out of a littel stage that he had made on the heyght of our Lady's tower, synginge as he went upon the cord all alonge the great strete, so that all that sawe him hadde marvayle how it might be; and he bore still in hys handes the two brinnynge candelles, so that he myght be well sene all over Parys, and two myles without the city. He was such a tombler, that his lightnesse was greatly praised."

'A performance much resembling the foregoing was exhibited before king Edward the Sixth, at the time he passed in procession through the city of London, previous to his coronation. "When the king," says the author, "was advanced almost to St. George's church, in Paul's church-yard, there was a rope as great as the cable of a ship, stretched in length from the battlements of Paul's steeple, with a great anchor at one end fastened a little before the dean of Paul's house-gate; and, when his majesty approached near the same, there came a man, a stranger, being a native of Arragon, lying on the rope, his head forward, casting his arms and legs abroad, running on his breast on the rope from the battlements to the ground, as if it had been an arrow out of a bow, and stayed on the ground. Then he came to the king's majesty, and kissed his foot; and so, after certain words to his highness, he departed from him again, and went upwards upon the rope till he came over the midst of the church-yard; where he, having a rope about him, played certain my-

Digitized by Google

steries on the rope, as tumbling, and casting one leg from another. Then took he the rope, and tied it to the cable, and tied himself by the right leg a little space beneath the wrist of the foot, and hung by one leg a certain space, and after recovered himself again with the said rope, and unkmit the knot, and came down again. Which stayed his majesty, with all the train, a good space of time."

'This trick was repeated, though probably by another performer, in the reign of queen Mary; for, according to Holinshed, among the various shows prepared for the reception of Philip, king of Spain, was one of a man who "came downe upon a rope, tied to the battlement of Saint Paule's church, with his head before, neither staieing himself with hand or foot; which," adds the author, "shortlie after cost him his life."

'A similar exploit was put in practice, about fifty years back, in different parts of this kingdom; and I received the following account of the manner in which it was carried into execution at Hertford from a friend of mine, who assisted the exhibitor in adjusting his apparatus, and saw his performance several times:—A rope was stretched from the top of the tower of All Saints church, and brought obliquely to the ground about fourscore yards from the bottom of the tower, where, being drawn over two strong pieces of wood nailed across each other, it was made fast to a stake driven into the earth; two or three feather-beds were then placed upon the cross timbers, to receive the performer when he descended, and to break his fall. He was also provided with a flat board having a groove in the midst of it, which he attached to his breast; and when he intended to exhibit, he laid himself upon the top of the rope, with his head downwards, and adjusted the groove to the rope, his legs being held by a person appointed for that purpose, until such time as he had properly balanced himself. He was then liberated, and descended with incredible swiftness from the top of the tower to the feather-beds, which prevented his reaching the ground. This man had lost one of his legs, and its place was supplied by a wooden leg, which was furnished on this occasion with a quantity of lead sufficient to counterpoise the weight of the other.' P. 166.

'A show-bill for Bartholomew fair, during the reign of queen Anne, announces "The wonderful performances of that most celebrated master Simpson, the famous vaulter, who, being lately arrived from Italy, will show the world what vaulting is!" The bill speaks pompously; but how far his abilities coincided with the promise I cannot determine, for none of his exertions are specified. But the most extraordinary vaulter that has appeared within my memory was brought forward last year at the Circus. He was then about eighteen years of age, exceedingly well made, and upwards of six feet high. He leaped over nine horses standing side by side, and a man seated upon the middle horse; he jumped over a garter held fourteen feet high; and at another jump kicked a bladder hanging sixteen feet at least from the ground; and, for his own benefit, he leaped over a temporary machine representing a broad-wheeled waggon with the tilt. These astonishing specimens of strength and agility

Digitized by Google

were performed, without any trick or deception, by a fair jump, and not with the *somersault*, which is usually practised on such occasions. After a run of ten or twelve yards, he ascended an inclined plane, constructed with thick boards, and about three feet in height at one end; from the upper part of this plane he made his spring, and, having performed the leap, was received into a carpet held by six or eight men. It may readily be supposed that exertions of such an extraordinary nature could not be long continued without some disastrous accident; and accordingly, in the first season of his engagement, he sprained the tendon of his heel so violently, that he could not perform for a considerable time afterwards.' P. 176.

The sixth chapter contains feats performed by tame animals; among which are properly classed the combats of pugilists. The seventh chapter is occupied with bowling, and similar exercises.

'The pastime of *bowling*, whether practised upon open greens, or in bowling-alleys, was probably an invention of the middle ages. I cannot by any means ascertain the time of its introduction; but I have traced it back to the thirteenth century. The earliest representation of a game played with bowls that I have met with occurs on the twenty-seventh plate, where two small cones are placed upright at a distance from each other; and the business of the players is evidently to bowl at them alternately; the successful candidate being he who could lay his bowl nearest to the mark. At the top of the same plate are two other bowlers; but they have no apparent object to play at, unless the bowl cast by the first may be considered as such by the second, and the game require him to strike it from its place. Below these we see three persons engaged in the pastime of bowling; and they have a small bowl, or jack, according to the modern practice, which serves them as a mark for the direction of their bowls: the action of the middle figure, whose bowl is supposed to be running towards the jack, will not appear by any means extravagant to such as are accustomed to visit the bowling-greens. The following little poem, called "A Parallel betwixt Bowling and Preferment," which I found in one of the manuscripts at the British Museum, expresses happily enough the turns and chances of the game of bowls:

"Preferment, like a game at boules,
To feede our hope hath divers play;
Heere quick it runns, there soft it roules;
The betters make and shew the way
On upper ground, so great allies
Doe many *cast* on their desire;
Some up are thrust, and forc'd to rise,
When those are stopt that would aspire.

"Some, whose heat and zeal exceed,
Thrive well by *rubbs* that curb their haste,
And some that languish in their speed
Are cherished by some favour's blaste;

Digitized by Google

Some rest in others' *cutting out*
The same by whom themselves are made;
Some fetch a *compass* farr about,
And secretly the marke invade.

" Some get by *knocks*, and so advance
Their fortune by a boysterous aime;
And some, who have the sweetest chance,
Their en'mies *hit*, and win the game.
The fairest *casts* are those that owe
No thanks to fortune's giddy sway;
Such honest men good *bowlers* are
Whose own true *bias cutts* the way."

'In the three delineations above mentioned, we may observe that the players have only one bowl for each person; the modern bowlers have usually three or four.

'Bowling-greens are said to have originated in England, and bowling upon them, in my memory, was a very popular amusement. In most country towns of any note they are to be found, and some few are still remaining in the vicinity of the metropolis; but none of them, I believe, are now so generally frequented as they were accustomed to be formerly.' P. 199.

'Bowling, according to an author of the seventeenth century, is a pastime "in which a man shall find great art in chusing out his ground, and preventing the winding, hanging, and many turning advantages of the same, whether it be in open wilde places, or in close allies; and for his sport, the chusing of the bowle is the greatest cunning; your flat bowles being best for allies, your round byazed bowles for open grounds of advantage, and your round bowles, like a ball, for green swarthes that are plain and level."

'On the top of the twenty-eighth plate is the representation of a very curious ancient pastime, which seems to bear some analogy to bowling; but the bowls, instead of being cast by the hand, are driven with a battoon or mace, through an arch, towards a mark at a distance from it; and hence, I make no doubt, originated the game of billiards, which formerly was played with a similar kind of arch and a mark called the *king*, but placed upon a table instead of the ground. The improvement by adding the table answered two good purposes: it precluded the necessity for the player to kneel, or stoop exceedingly, when he struck the bowl, and accommodated the game to the limits of a chamber.' P. 201.

In the fourth book Mr. Strutt proceeds to domestic amusements of various kinds, and pastimes appropriated to particular seasons.

'It has been remarked by foreigners that the English are particularly fond of bell-ringing; and indeed most of our churches have a ring of bells in the steeple, partly appropriated to that purpose. These bells are rung upon most occasions of joy and festivity, and sometimes at funerals, when they are muffled, with a piece of woollen

Digitized by Google

cloth bound about the clapper, and the sounds then emitted by them are exceeding unmelodious, and well fitted to inspire the mind with melancholy. Ringing of rounds—that is, sounding every bell in succession, from the least to the greatest, and repeating the operation—produces no variety; on the contrary, the reiteration of the same cadences in a short time becomes tiresome; for which reason the ringing of changes has been introduced, wherein the succession of the bells is shifted continually; and by this means a varied combination of different sounds, exceeding pleasant to the ear, is readily produced. This improvement in the art of ringing is thought to be peculiar to the people of this country. Ringing the bells backwards is sometimes mentioned, and probably consisted in beginning with the largest bell, and ending with the least; it appears to have been practised by the ringers as a mark of contempt or disgust.

'The antiquity of bell-ringing in England cannot readily be ascertained: it is said that bells were invented by Paulinus, bishop of Nola, at the commencement of the fifth century: they were afterwards used in Brittany, and thence perhaps brought into this country. Ingulphus speaks of them as well known in his time, and tells us "that Turketullus, the first abbot of Croyland, gave six bells to that monastery; that is to say, two great ones, which he named Bartholomew and Betteline; two of a middling size, called Turketulum and Beterine; and two small ones, denominated Pega and Bega: he also caused the greatest bell to be made, called Gudhlac; which was tuned to the other bells, and produced an admirable harmony, not to be equaled in England."

'I know not how far the pastime of bell-ringing attracted the notice of the opulent in former times; at present it is confined to the lower classes of the people, who are paid by the parish for ringing upon certain holydays. At weddings, as well as upon other festive occurrences, they usually ring the bells, in expectance of a pecuniary reward.' P. 218.

The billiards, and similar games, are afterwards illustrated.

In the second chapter of this fourth and last book our ingenious author gives an account of various sedentary games; and his anecdotes are curious and amusing. After mentioning the supposed origin of cards, Mr. Strutt thus proceeds:

'A very intelligent writer upon the origin of engraving asserts that playing-cards were invented in Germany, where they were used towards the latter end of the fourteenth century; but his reasons are by no means conclusive.

'An author of our own country produces a passage cited from a wardrobe computus made in the sixth year of Edward the First, which mentions a game entitled "the four kings;" and hence, with some degree of probability, he conjectures that the use of playing-cards was then known in England, which is a much earlier period than any that has been assigned by the foreign authors. It is the opinion of several learned writers well acquainted with Asiatic history, that cards were used in the eastern parts of the world long before they found their way into Europe. If this position be granted,

Digitized by Google

when we recollect that Edward the First, before his accession to the throne, resided nearly five years in Syria, it will be natural enough to suppose that he might have learned the game of "the four kings" in that country, and introduced it at court upon his return to England. An objection, which indeed at first sight seems to be a very powerful one, has been raised in opposition to this conjecture; it is founded upon the total silence of every kind of authority respecting the subject of card-playing from the time that the above mentioned entry was made, to an early period in the reign of Edward the Fourth, including an interval of one hundred and eighty-six years. An omission so general it is thought would not have taken place, if the words contained in that record alluded to the usage of playing-cards. A game introduced by a monarch could not fail of becoming fashionable; and, if it continued to be practised in after times, must in all probability have been mentioned occasionally in conjunction with the other pastimes then prevalent. But this silence is by no means a positive proof that the game of *the four kings* was not played with cards, nor that cards did not long continue to be used during the whole of the above-mentioned interval in the higher circles, though not perhaps with such abuses as were afterwards practised, and which excited the reprehension of the moral and religious writers. Besides, at the time that cards were first introduced, they were drawn and painted by the hand, without the assistance of a stamp or plate; it follows of course that much time was required to complete a set or pack of cards; the price they bore, no doubt, was adequate to the labour bestowed upon them, which necessarily must have enhanced their value beyond the purchase of the under classes of the people; and for this reason it is, I presume, that card-playing, though it might have been known in England, was not much practised until such time as inferior sets of cards, proportionably cheap, were produced for the use of the commonalty, which seems to have been the case when Edward the Fourth ascended the throne; for early in his reign an act was established prohibiting the importation of playing-cards; and soon after that period card-playing became a very general pastime.

'The increasing demand for these objects of amusement, it is said, suggested the idea of cutting the outlines appropriated to the different suits upon separate blocks of wood and stamping them upon the cards, the intermediate spaces between the outlines being filled up with various colours laid on by the hand. This expeditious method of producing cards reduced the price of them so that they might readily be purchased by almost every class of persons; the common usage of cards was soon productive of serious evils, which all the exertions of the legislative power have not been able to eradicate.

'Another argument against the great antiquity of playing-cards is drawn from the want of paper proper for their fabrication. We certainly have no reason to believe that paper made with linen rags was produced in Europe before the middle of the fourteenth century; and even then the art of paper-making does not appear to have been carried to any great perfection. It is also granted that paper

Digitized by Google

is the most proper material we know of for the manufacturing of cards; but it will not therefore follow that they could not possibly be made with any other; and if we admit of any other, the objection will fall to the ground.

'Card-playing appears to have been a very fashionable court amusement in the reign of Henry the Seventh. In an account of money disbursed for the use of that monarch, an entry is made of one hundred shillings paid at one time to him for the purpose of playing at cards. The princess Margaret, his daughter, previous to her marriage with James the Fourth, king of Scotland, understood the use of cards; and Catherine of Spain, the consort of prince Arthur, afterwards married to Henry the Eighth his brother, is said in her youth to have been well acquainted with the art of embroidery and other works of the needle proper for ladies to know, and also that she was expert in various courtly pastimes, and could play at "tables, tick-tacke or gleeke, with cardis and dyce."

'The universality of card-playing in the reign of this monarch is evident from a prohibitory statute being necessary to prevent apprentices from using cards except in the Christmas holidays, and then only in their masters' houses. Agreeable to this privilege, Stow, speaking of the customs at London, says, "From All-Hallows eve to the day following Candlemas-day, there was, among other sports, playing at cards for counters, nails, and points, in every house, more for pastime than for gain." But this moderation, I apprehend, was by no means general; for several contemporary writers are exceedingly severe in their reflexions upon the usage of cards, which they rank with dice, and consider both as destructive to morality and good order.' P. 242.

Several games at cards, particularly the more ancient, are then explained; and in the third chapter our author gives an account of Christmas games, May games, &c.

'The barbarous and wicked diversion of throwing at cocks usually took place at all the wakes and fairs that were held about Shrovetide, and especially at such of them as were kept on Shrove-Tuesday. Upon the abolition of this inhuman custom, the place of the living birds was supplied by toys made in the shape of cocks, with large and heavy stands of lead, at which the boys, on paying some very trifling sum, were permitted to throw as heretofore; and he who could overturn the toy claimed it as a reward for his adroitness. This innocent pastime never became popular; for the sport derived from the torment of a living creature existed no longer, and its want was not to be compensated by the overthrowing or breaking a motionless representative; therefore the diversion was very soon discontinued. At present snuff-boxes, tobacco-boxes, and other trinkets of small value, or else halfpence or gingerbread, placed upon low stands, are thown at, and sometimes apples and oranges, set up in small heaps; and children are usually enticed to lay out their money for permission to throw at them by the owners, who keep continually bawling—"Knock down one, you have them all!" P. 276.

Digitized by Google

The fourth chapter contains games practised by children, and might admit of many additions.

At the end is an Appendix, containing an account of the manuscripts from which the plates are taken, together with thirty-nine plates neatly and accurately engraved. We regret, as already mentioned, the want of an index. Of the work itself we have already expressed our sentiments, as an amusing accession to the library of English antiquity.

ART. XIII.—*A Treatise on the Cow-Pox; containing the History of Vaccine Inoculation, and an Account of the various Publications which have appeared on that Subject in Great-Britain and other Parts of the World. By John Ring. Part I.* 8*vo.* 8*s. Boards.* Carpenters. 1801.

THE exuberant and fulsome style of adulation which pervades this volume disgusted us no less than the exaggeration with which every minute circumstance is extolled. We mean not to detract from the merit of Dr. Jenner: we allow it all, and as much as his best friends would wish. A fact well known in the Gloucestershire dairies, viz. that a disease of the cows would secure those who had been infected with it from the small-pox, he has brought forward with additional evidence, and endeavoured to render general. He deserves, even should he prove unsuccessful, no slight commendation for this attempt. But his adulator turns what might be great into farce—'the sun of science,' 'the prophetic eye,' 'condescending to reply,'—transform the promulgator of a previously observed fact into a discoverer of the first magnitude. Harvey, Copernicus, and Newton, could have obtained no more: and perhaps each would have turned with disgust from such extravagant panegyrics. Dr. Jenner from *himself* has advanced but one step, viz. to connect the cow-pox with a disease more disgusting and loathsome than almost any other. He has already, within our own knowledge, deprived many a valetudinarian of his salubrious diet; and for what? for a theory not worth a contest—for a doctrine which, whether true or false, cannot add an iota to science, cannot contribute to the comfort or relief of a single individual—for a speculative question, contemptible in its source and injurious in its consequences. This is brought forward by Mr. Ring with great pomp, and with additional evidence, for reasons which we cannot fathom; except that Dr. Jenner, being the sun of science, 'the god kissing carrion,' must be the cause of whatever is most disgusting as well as most beneficial.

In this treatise we find an analysis of whatever has been published on this subject; and the letters in different journals are

Digitized by Google

copiously abridged or transcribed. We will not add that these have been already noticed by us; for from their form they could not be the subject of our remarks, and from their importance they would not. Our readers may have observed that we have looked at publications on this subject somewhat fastidiously. We have done so, for we saw their foundation. The subject itself we have closely watched, and have given its substance within narrow limits: indeed it did not require any very extensive research. The foreign publications we have designedly passed by, not because they have not been before us, but because the vehicle only was altered—the medicine remained the same; and we shall now only shortly add the state of the question, so far as it becomes one, from the evidence exhibited.

The disease of the cows, from which it derives its name, may certainly be communicated to the human body; and whatever becomes of the question, whether the cow-pox can be repeatedly communicated? the probability is, that it preserves mankind from the small-pox; while the disease in itself is more mild, less communicable by effluvia, and not attended, in particular situations, with symptoms so violent or dangerous. That it preserves from the small-pox, is not yet, in the opinion of every one, clearly established; but we think it to be so. Various facts on the opposite side are adduced; though we are old enough to know that they are not more numerous than those formerly brought by the opponents of inoculation. If it be a fact that in some RARE, VERY RARE instances, the small-pox may twice attack the same person, it will not be surprising, when such repeated infections are earnestly inquired after, and carefully preserved by the opponents of the cow-pox, that similar ones may be found with respect to this latter disease.

The disease itself is certainly more mild, and, we believe, scarcely, if ever, attended with the dangerous symptoms of inoculated small-pox; yet we think the idea should not be held up that such symptoms *never* occur. Should there happen to be such, even from accidental coincidence, the practice would suffer from the disappointment. Some of these we think we have witnessed, though in circumstances that ought not to affect the question in general. That the disease is *never* attended with pustules, or communicated by effluvia, has not yet been indisputably ascertained; but the general evidence is decidedly in favour of the cow-pox.

We have perhaps, in this short compass, said more in favour of the cow-pox than Mr. Ring in his laboured compilation; for we admit that we were prejudiced against it; and the above is the result of a patient investigation. As we have hinted that the advocates of the cow-pox should not aim at proving too much,—and indeed this is unnecessary, as so much is clearly in their favour,—we will add another caution.

Digitized by Google

In all the disputed cases, where the *small-* has been said to be followed by the *cow*-pox, it has been alleged that the latter has been of the spurious kind. Authors have indeed endeavoured to point out this spurious kind, and its distinguishing appearances; but this has not been done with clearness and precision, nor so publicly nor popularly as the doubts require. It is a very proper subject of consideration in our author's second part. We think it ascertained that the small-pox will not *soon* attack the person who has had the cow-pox; but whether it will *ever* affect him, is perhaps not clear. We mean not however, by this remark, to oppose the new attempt, but to assist its progress; for if we must depend (and in this case it is indispensable) on the observation of an illiterate person, after the interval of from twenty to forty years, every one will admit that objections from this source will have little weight. We have many cases of this kind in *our* records; but, for the reasons just alleged, we think them weaker than a reed. We may add more when the second part comes before us. We wish, however, for other language, and for the omission of the reputed cause.

MONTHLY CATALOGUE.

POLITICS, &c.

ART. 14.—*Letters to the Right Honourable Lord Hawkesbury, and to the Right Honourable Henry Addington, on the Peace with Bonaparte: to which is added an Appendix, containing a Collection (now greatly enlarged) of all the Conventions, Treaties, Speeches, and other Documents connected with the Subject. By William Cobbett.* 8vo. 7s. *Boards.* Cobbett *and* Morgan. 1802.

THIS indefatigable writer vomits forth his fury against lord Hawkesbury for the peace, and is terribly sore for the indignity offered to his own house on the night of the illuminations. The editor of the Porcupine, whose whole delight seemed to be to throw dirt, in his paper, upon every public character who was not of his own sentiments, and to hold up to popular resentment every advocate for peace, is in a rage that the popular effervescence should take a contrary direction, and that he should be almost the only object of popular irascibility. We disapprove entirely both the attacks of this writer on public and private characters, and the attack of the populace on his dwelling-house; yet, reflecting on the conduct of the two parties, we cannot avoid observing, that

——— 'Nec lex est justior ulla,
Quam necis artifices arte perire suâ.'

Digitized by Google

The writer of these letters declares that he has ceased to be the editor of the Porcupine since the 21st of November 1801; and we trust that the English press will never again be disgraced with such effusions of malice and resentment, couched in the lowest and vilest terms. Letters like these before us may be written without end, with a book of maps and the news-papers on the table; and the writer, from whom is extorted 'a curse in spite of philosophy and religion,' because the name of Otto precedes that of Hawkesbury, might, if cursing did not seem to be his delight, be relieved from this vexation by learning that there are always two copies of a treaty signed—and that in the other copy the reverse would take place.

ART. 15.—*Letters to the Right Honourable Henry Addington, Chancellor of his Majesty's Exchequer, on the fatal Effects of the Peace with Bonaparte; particularly with respect to the Colonies, the Commerce, the Manufactures, and the Constitution of the United Kingdom. By William Cobbett.* 8vo. 3s. Cobbett *and* Morgan. 1802.

Mr. Cobbett is in a terrible passion with Mr. Addington for making peace with the French republic. He talks of the right of examining into the conduct of a minister, and communicating to his fellow-subjects the result of his examination; yet he should recollect the asperity of his language against all who, in far milder terms than those in which these letters are couched, ventured to call in question the policy or justice of the war, or the conduct of the ex-minister. Mr. Cobbett also is excessively angry with sir F. M. Eden, whom, 'from his style and his notion of commerce and politics, he takes to be some pedagogue out of place.' We will not venture to decide between these rival politicians—*Arcades ambo*; and very few of our readers, we are convinced, will be at the trouble of reading the lucubrations of either on the good or bad effects of a peace with Bonaparte.

ART. 16.—*The Speech of the Right Honourable William Windham, delivered in the House of Commons, Wednesday Nov.* 4, 1801, *on the Report of an Address to the Throne, approving of the Preliminaries of Peace with the Republic of France.* 8vo. 2s. 6d. Cobbett *and* Morgan. 1801.

The speaker is a complete alarmist, and would have war, perpetual war with France—to what effectual purpose (for all the old *galimatias* on religion, social order, the deliverance of Europe, &c. has lost its influence with parliament and people) we cannot from this speech possibly discover. The best answer to it is to be extracted from the speaker's own words—

'When I look at the conduct of the French revolutionary rulers, as compared with that of their opponents; when I see the grandeur of their designs, the wisdom of their plans, the steadiness of their execution, their boldness in acting, their constancy in enduring, their contempt of all small obstacles and temporary embarrassments, their inflexible determination to perform such and such things, and the powers which they have displayed in acting up to that determination; when I contrast these with the narrow views, the paltry in-

Digitized by Google

terests, the occasional expedients, the desultory and wavering conduct, the want of all right feeling and just conception, that characterise so generally the governments and nations opposed to them, I confess I sink down in despondency, and am fain to admit, that if they shall have conquered the world, it will be by qualities by which they deserve to conquer it.' P. 42.

If the speaker desponds in the vigorous efforts of the government of which he was so principal a part, we cannot at any rate be worse off by the peace; and lives and fortunes will no longer be risked in a fruitless contest. But in peace we may be destroyed by an intercourse with France! French morality will be our ruin!—as if it were possible for republican France to pour in upon us more atheism, more debauchery, more sensuality, than we received from her under her monarchy; and in a country where such efforts have been made to establish a pic-nic society, it does not become us to speak in very high terms of the purity of our morals. The mischief has been done, we fear, by the French already introduced amongst us, whose manners are more easy, and assuredly of not less dangerous imitation, than those of the republicans.

ART. 17.—*Eight Letters on the Peace, and on the Commerce and Manufactures of Great-Britain. By Sir Frederick Morton Eden, Bart.* 8vo. 3*s.* 6*d.* Wright. 1802.

These letters made their first appearance in public in the Porcupine, with whose editor the author is not in unison on the subject of the peace. The great question is very little assisted by a quantity of uninteresting matter, dry detail, and tables, from which no facts of material importance can be collected. The lesson to be derived from the useless and bloody struggle in which we have been engaged, is, that a vigorous resistance has enabled Britain—

' —to maintain her independence, and, by the sacrifice of a part, to render the remainder of her wealth more valuable and more improveable! May she gratefully recollect that the revolutionary system which she has opposed has not forced her to surrender her commerce to preserve her constitution, and that the cessation of hostilities does not call on her to surrender her constitution to preserve her commerce. They both may, they both will, flourish together; and when, at some future period, the feverish ambition of mankind shall compel her to unsheath the sword, her constitution and her commerce will again supply her both with motives and with means to prosecute the contest until it can again be terminated with safety and with honour.' P. 131.

Thus concludes a work which at its commencement informed us, that, by our attempt to thrust a constitution down the throats of the French, ' a debt of three hundred millions has been incurred,'—a sum, the annual interest of which is greater than the annual gains of all our commerce, if the returns of our merchants to the income-tax are to be depended upon. That the constitution has not been surrendered in this conflict, may be doubted: at any rate, the most valuable part of it, the habeas-corpus act, was surrendered; and it

Digitized by Google

may be justly doubted also, whether, like the Bank, it has not lost the sanctity of its character for ever.

ART. 18.—*Considerations concerning Peace. By a Fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge.* 8vo. 1s. 6d. Hatchard.

The object of this pamphlet was to induce the people to petition for peace; and the people are supposed to be almost unanimous in favour of Mr. Pitt. His dismission from office, and the silence into which he has sunk, clearly prove the error of the latter opinion, as not one mark of disapprobation of the measure has occurred in any part of the united kingdom. That the people were almost unanimous for peace, is evident from the universal joy with which the first tidings of it were received throughout the country. This writer has, moreover, the merit of estimating with some degree of precision the attachment that was supposed to have subsisted between Mr. Pitt and his majority in parliament.

'The majority which government at present commands in the house of commons, are, in my humble opinion, of little comparative value, even in the eyes of the minister himself. The herd of courtiers and placemen which the stability of every government requires to be under the immediate influence of the existing ruler are attached —not to Mr. Pitt, but—to the chancellor of the exchequer: these men are less actuated by gratitude than by interest.' P. 2.

ART. 19.—*Three Words to Mr. Pitt, on the War, and on the Peace.* 8vo. 2s. 6d. Ridgeway. 1801.

In these Three Words to Mr. Pitt are many excellent observations on his conduct as a minister in general, on the war, and on the peace. The work is written in an easy plain familiar style, and the justice of the remarks is not at all invalidated by the playful humour with which at times it abounds. The real nature of the war is explained in a few words, which may be easily remembered.

'It was a regular conflict of five-and-twenty millions of men; to recover from an individual those rights which in darker days had been usurped from them, and concentrated and exercised, for a long time, by a particular family, so as to have created an opinion that, from the first origin of society, they had been entitled to no other rights than what that favoured family had been pleased to impart to them.' P. 55.

On the peace the writer's sentiments are equally appropriate and just.

'—The peace itself was as good a compromise of a bad bargain as any man had a right to expect.'

'It is true,' (the writer adds, with a proper apostrophe to the ex-minister,) 'we got neither indemnity nor security, we effected not one of the objects of the war; but that, I admit, was not your fault;—you paid well as long as you could get any body to fight for money, and still scolded against Bonaparte, when every other power was silenced; you did all that a brave man could do to cripple, ruin, and

Digitized by Google

dismember France; and if you did not succeed, it was the fault of the republic, not yours.

'Well, sir, that is not what we complain of. We know very well the extent of your malignity, and your efforts to obtain effect to it. We are only dissatisfied with you for having brought us into the war at all, and for compelling us to fight against people who were only fighting for their liberty—a thing which we once loved very much ourselves; and, after all your fine engagements and promises, to leave us so much weaker, and France so much stronger than before: for the upshot of the business is this—we have doubled our debt, and France has doubled her dominion. In one war you added more to the national debt than all the wars and all the ministers that ever preceded you have done, from the beginning of time to the present day.' P. 65.

We cannot leave our good-humoured satyrist without making another extract, which we hope will induce many of our readers to purchase his work.

'Sir, you will not think, from any thing I have said in the course of this letter, that I mean to flatter either you or your collegues, or your successors or opponents, or the country itself I am not only without expectation of benefit from any quarter whatever, but almost aloof from society itself; and in blotting so many pages as I have done, I have only given vent to some notions that have been fermenting in my mind for these nine long years, and diverted my attention for a few hours from other afflictions. However, I have certainly said good enough of you to entitle me to some portion of your acknowledgments. All that I require is your order to the literary reviewers attached to administration (for in your retreat you have still influence enough to be obeyed) that they speak with due reverence of this work; otherwise I well know that I have no chance of quarter either from the British Critic or the Anti-Jacobin Review, whose very title announces hostility to such discussions as I have engaged in; and if they consign me to the pastry-cook, how am I to subsist? My labour, being but of little value, I calculate at nothing; but now that printing-paper has, under your glorious administration, become almost as valuable as that which is manufactured at the bank, it would ruin me if my letter were to remain unsold: I therefore entreat that you will not only read it yourself, but that you will recommend it to the perusal of others, under the assurance that one tenth of all my literary profits shall be fairly paid to your income-tax.' P. 88.

ART. 20.—*Letters of the Dead; or, Epistles from the Statesmen of former Days to those of the present Hour.* 8vo. 1s. Stockdale. 1802.

"An inflated bombastic panegyric of Mr. Pitt—an unhappy imitation of Mr. Burke in his own unhappiest moments. It is truly ludicrous to hear it asserted, that 'to the fortitude of Mr. Pitt and his little phalanx of co-patriots, not only Britain, but the whole civilised world, is indebted for the check to anarchy.' That anarchy received strength from their opposition;—and it is unfortunate for the writer that it ceased at the time when these co-patriots ceased to possess power.

Digitized by Google

ART. 21.—*The Boa Constrictor: an Illustration from the Natural of what has appeared in the Political World; suggested in consequence of a Recollection of Events which was provoked by a late French semi-official Publication in the Moniteur: concluding with some Considerations respecting Negotiation. By the Author of the Theory of Chess.* 8vo. 1s. Hatchard. 1801.

France is compared to the *boa constrictor*, the monstrous serpent that is accustomed to swallow down stags and tigers, after it has, by winding round them, broken their bones and made them fit for deglutition. The image is in itself not very agreeable; nor is there any merit in the composition to encourage a reader to inquire farther into its contents.

ART. 22.—*The Impolicy of returning Bankers to Parliament in the ensuing general Election; including Strictures on the Productions under the Signature of Common Sense, &c. &c. Dedicated to his Grace the Duke of Bedford. By a Friend to the Poor, the Commerce, and the Constitution of England.* 8vo. 1s. Jordan. 1802.

This impolicy is said to arise from the interest which the bankers have in supporting the present destructive paper system, which, no one can doubt, is fraught with the most injurious consequences to the king, the constitution, and the country. The moment that the bank was permitted to stop payment, and to issue notes without control, a deluge of fictitious paper covered the land, which necessarily produced monopoly, scarcity, and poverty. These facts are clearly proved in the pamphlet before us: but the writer ought to have made himself better acquainted with the controversy on Mr. Boyd's pamphlet, and to have stated the result of the discussion which arose from it. We cannot doubt that fictitious paper must be removed before the country can be restored to its former salutary state; but we do not see that the disqualification of bankers from a seat in parliament is the proper remedy. Their numbers or influence is not sufficiently great to render them of such importance. The lower classes, who suffer from the paper system, should resolve to vote only for that candidate who pledges himself to resist the fictitious paper system, and to compel every person to perform his promise on paper, to pay, or to suffer the penalty inflicted by law against swindlers and debtors.

ART. 23.—*The Sound and Baltic, considered in a political, military, and commercial View: intended to illustrate the relative Connexions and maritime Strength of the Northern Powers. To which are added, Observations upon Egypt, and the Trade of India, as connected with the Baltic, or East Sea. Translated from a German Pamphlet, published at Berlin in April last.* 8vo. 2s. 6d. Debrett. 1801.

Great-Britain has, in the last conflict with France, lost much of her reputation—not indeed for want of bravery in her marine or skill in the management of her ships, or resources to subsidise foreign troops—but she is accused of an aggrandising spirit, and an endeavour to turn every event on the continent to her own profit, without the least regard to the rights of foreign powers. This ill humour of our neighbours towards us is manifested in a variety of publications, and particularly those that issue from the German presses; and no opportunity is lost in the pamphlet before us of throwing out insinuations to our disadvantage. No one indeed can vindicate the conduct of the

late ministers on the capitulation of Kleber in Egypt; the folly of it could be equaled only by its injustice; and it cannot be more reprobated abroad than it is at home: yet a whole nation ought not to lie under a severe stigma for the conduct of a few who may betray the confidence reposed in them. Egypt, says this writer, was—

'—again preserved to France, because the English were too eager to aggrandise themselves, and too regardless of justice to take advantage of a moment which may never again occur. Their conduct at taking possession of the Neapolitan forts is a similar proof of the manner in which the English think and act, and of the principles of justice and equity by which they are governed.' P. 4.

Our conduct at Malta towards Russia is equally reprobated; and we are accused of a breach of promise towards the late emperor, by which the atrocity of his consequent proceedings is in a great measure said to be justified.

'The conduct of England towards these Russian allies is marked with a degree of treachery that forms an epoch in the history of the military law of nations. She refused to exchange them as her auxiliaries, although employed and taken prisoners in an expedition planned solely for her advantage. Such is the mercantile spirit of the cabinet of St. James's, which regards no ties but those knit by self-interest.' P. 15.

We are represented as Jacobins on the sea, and our conquests on that element are depreciated by our arrogance.

'Thus did the English imagine they might presume to dictate maritime laws, because they had it in their power to enforce them, and to benefit themselves by their adoption. The Danish frigate *Freya* was treated as an enemy, notwithstanding her neutral flag; and a Swedish vessel was compelled to assist in cutting two Spanish ships out of the harbour of Barcelona. Prussian ships also were seized;—and the consequence was, that Prussian troops took possession of Cuxhaven.

'Oppressive as was the general monopoly of commerce, which circumstances had thrown into the hands of England (for by it she compelled all Europe to pay a contribution towards the war), the arbitrary and absolute manner in which she insulted every acknowledged maritime right presented to our view consequences still more dangerous. The conduct of England towards Denmark, when the Freya was taken, can never be forgotten. An embassador was sent to Copenhagen, rather to demand than to give satisfaction; and Denmark, not then strengthened by the quadruple alliance, was obliged to submit to an insult by which justice was trodden under foot, and which little minds alone could have triumphed in offering.' P. 16.

The convention of the northern powers is vindicated, and the whole drift of our author is seen in the following passage.

'The far greater proportion of the states of Europe had long been disgusted with England, whose influence alone appeared to prolong hostilities among the contending powers, by means of her intrigues, and the profusion with which she lavished her subsidies; nor could they behold with indifference the new regulations by which she sought to confirm the dominion she had usurped upon the sea.

They became sensible that the tyranny she had hitherto exercised on the ocean was the means of compelling the rest of Europe to contribute to a war which was universally unpopular; and they felt, that if apprehensions were entertained of the extension of the power of the French republic by land, the acts of violence which the English committed by sea were still more to be dreaded.' P. 32.

Whilst attempts are made to diminish even our just and well-earned fame, that of Bonaparte and the French is raised to the highest degree, and their faults are either passed over in silence or very much extenuated. To this extraordinary change in the sentiments of the continental powers a historian will pay great attention; and the cause of the French ascendency will afford, it is to be hoped, a striking lesson to the present and future cabinets. The reflexions in this work, mortifying as they are to our pride, are evidently made by one of some influence in the political world.

RELIGION.

ART. 24.—*A Charge delivered to the Clergy of the Diocese of Durham, at the ordinary Visitation of that Diocese, in July*, 1801. *By Shute, Bishop of Durham.* 4to. 1s. 6d. Payne. 1802.

To popery the worthy prelate imputes in a great degree 'the origin of that revolutionary spirit which has gone so far towards the subversion of the ancient establishments of religion and civil government.' Every consistent protestant will subscribe to this opinion, as far as it relates to religion. The absurdities of the popish church were long disgusting to the thinking part of the French nation; and the higher classes, having once acquired a contempt for it, never gave themselves the trouble to examine into its truth, upon its original documents, and were not consequently prepared, on the removal of superstition, to introduce a simpler form of worship. 'The maintenance of opinions unfounded on the authority of the Gospel, and inconsistent with its purity, has given occasion to minds perhaps naturally averse to religion to reject the most valuable evidence of Christianity.' This must be the case every where if the Scriptures be discarded for the traditions of men; and hence, with great propriety, the right-reverend prelate selected for the subject of his charge 'the necessity of cultivating the pure principles of the Gospel, and of studying the means of promoting in ourselves and others a truly spiritual religion.'

This spiritual religion is defined to be 'a sincere devotion of the mind to God, an humble resignation to all his dispensations, an universal and unvaried obedience to his will.' The impediments to it are 'want of faith, ignorance of the Scriptures, the fear of singularity, prejudice, acquiescence in the customs of others well reputed in the world.' Such impediments concern the people chiefly: but their force 'may perhaps be quadrupled by a want of spiritual instruction and accordant conduct in him who should be their guide to truth, whose example should give activity to their duties and spirituality to their hopes and views.' On this latter point the bishop dwells with becoming earnestness and respect to his hearers; and having thus stated to them what are their chief impediments, he proceeds to lay before them the principal means of cultivating and promoting spiritual religion—of which the first cannot be too often

inculcated on both priest and people; and with this impression on our minds we place it before our readers.

'There is no security in religious opinions which are not founded on clear and definite principles. Without such a guide all men are liable to be carried about with every wind of doctrine, with that sleight and subtilty, and cunning craftiness of deceitful sophistry, which the writings of modern infidels have too successfully employed. The young therefore, the unlearned, and the uneducated, which constitute the bulk of your congregations, cannot be too often reminded, what are "the first principles of the oracles of God." They should not only be taught that the foundation of all true religion must be laid in the knowledge of God, and of ourselves; and that the grounds of the first of these two branches of religious knowledge can be collected only from the Scriptures and the works of creation; of the second, from the Scriptures, from the world, and from ourselves; but they should be habituated to a familiar acquaintance with those doctrines, which are to be held as subjects of primary importance in each branch.' P. 14.

Faith is then to be inculcated as the beginning and end of all religion; and having fully imbibed such a doctrine, the mind will be prepared to embrace 'charity as a comprehensive and efficacious principle.' From these general remarks the attention of the younger part of the audience is conducted to certain aids to devotion; and they are particularly, and with great justice, recommended to peruse frequently the ordination service, and to reflect seriously on the solemn question proposed to them on entering upon their office, and the dreadful peril in which they have involved themselves if, instead of consulting 'the glory of God, and the edification of his church, they have been intent, solely or principally, on their own ease or worldly advantage.' Their zeal is excited by the most pressing motives; and a direction is given which deserves to be studied attentively by every minister of the Gospel.

'Whatever is declared in Scripture, you are bound to preach; whatever is peculiar to Christianity, and essential to salvation, must be constantly laid before your congregations, and enforced upon their minds, "whether they will hear, or whether they will forbear;" such principles and such doctrines are indispensable subjects of your instruction and exhortation, whether preached by papist or puritan, conformist or non-conformist; the choice of them is not matter of discretion; for woe to them who preach not the Gospel, the whole Gospel, undiminished and undisguised.' P. 21.

We have been thus ample in our account of this Charge, because our clerical readers who have not an opportunity of perusing the whole will be happy to see as much of it as our limits will permit us to insert; and to them we particularly recommend the following judicious note on the celebrated controversy between faith and works.

'I cannot help thinking that some misconception and perversion of the Scripture doctrine of salvation may have arisen from an ambiguity in the words "saved by faith without works," arising from the

Digitized by Google

different meanings which may be annexed to them, accordingly as they are spoken or written. If we could have been saved by our own good works, Christ would have died in vain. But as we cannot be saved by works, God has mercifully appointed that we shall be saved by faith without works. But to be "saved by faith, without works," that is, *per fidem, nullo operum adjumento*, has a very different meaning from being saved by faith without works, that is, *per fidem infructuosam*. In the first sense, *without works*, is the attribute of the verb; in the second, it is the attribute of the noun. The difference is still more striking in Greek. We are saved διὰ πιστεως, ανευ εργων, but not διὰ πιστεως της ανευ εργων. For, we are saved by faith—without works; but not by the faith which is without works. The former sense, by admitting that we are saved not by works, (for our best works are far short of our duty, but by an atonement of infinitely greater value, does not exclude the necessity of good works; but the latter supposes the validity of a faith unproductive of good works—a sense contrary to the whole tenor of Scripture. To be saved, without works (that is, not by our own good works, but) by faith, is not subject to the same ambiguity as to be "saved by faith without works." P. 6.

ART. 25.—*The Restoration of the Jews, the Crisis of all Nations; or, an Arrangement of the Scripture Prophecies which relate to the Restoration of the Jews, and to some of the most interesting Circumstances which are to accompany and distinguish that important Event; with Illustrations and Remarks drawn from the present Situation and apparent Tendencies of Things, both in Christian and Mahomedan Countries. By J. Bicheno, M. A.* 8vo. 2s. 6d. Johnson.

The restoration of the Jews to their own country seems to be warranted by their preservation for so great a length of time in a state of separation from all other nations; by a variety of texts of Scripture, which can scarcely be reconciled to their return after the first captivity; by the promises of God never to forsake them utterly; by the strong simile of St. Paul on the wild-olive and the graft; and by the corruptions of Christianity, which have so much impeded its progress in the world. That this event cannot be very far distant—we speak not of years but of generations—seems also to be a consequence of the first persuasion of their final return; and that it should be a crisis to all nations, we must readily allow; though, what the nature of that crisis may be, we profess ourselves unable to ascertain, while, at the same time, we give due applause to those who employ their leisure and talents in examining what light the Scriptures throw upon this interesting and important subject. On these occasions we read with pleasure the attempts of this writer to afford us, by an arrangement of Scripture prophecies and the opinions of the most celebrated divines, a better opportunity of exercising our judgement, and of tracing the connexion between the appearances of the present times and the probable improvement in the situation of mankind in future periods. If we be not so impressed with the actual state of affairs as to expect so speedy a crisis as the author, and be tempted to believe that it will not be attended with such grievous calamities as he apprehends, we are no less persuaded that such a crisis must arrive, and that the wisdom of God, in his conduct towards Jews, Gentiles, and Christians, will be made

manifest, when, the course of their multiplied errors being completed, they will all unite in a firm belief of the truths of the Gospel.

The work is divided into four chapters. In the first are accumulated the evidences for the future restoration of the Jews: in the second are described the probable events connected with this restoration, with conjectures on the quarter whence their deliverance may be expected to originate. Of these events, two appear to us to be very probable—the total overthrow of the fourth monarchy, or the entire destruction of the image seen by Daniel, and of the Turkish empire, or rather Mahometan principles. To the conjectures respecting the nations which are to contribute to the restoration of the Jews, whether Spain, France, or Great-Britain, we attribute very little weight; and they do not appear to us to be in the least strengthened by a late attempt to translate and interpret the eighteenth chapter of Isaiah. In the third chapter the future character of the Jews is considered, and the effects of it on the nations of the earth, which gives rise for the ingenuity of additional conjectures; but the truth of them we must leave to futurity to determine. The last chapter embraces a still wider field—the kingdom of God on earth, and the general conversion of mankind. These glorious themes cannot be too much the object of a Christian's contemplation; and we may form some estimate of our Scriptural faith by the manner in which we receive the strange notions embraced by many Christians, who, equally with infidels, are incredulous on the absolute conquest of virtue over vice, duty over sin, and the triumphant reign of the saints on earth.

The state of the present times has naturally too great an influence to permit us perhaps to determine impartially on the subjects of such a work as the present; yet the study of them cannot be too much encouraged, if they lead us to a fuller conviction of God's moral government, and diminish our attention to the lower politics of individual kingdoms. If a writer—a man of piety and well read in the Scriptures—conceive that he sees reason for apprehending his nation is engaged in the support of a superstition doomed to destruction, and of countries which must eventually fall, we cannot condemn him for communicating those reasons in a serious and dispassionate manner, whether we agree with or differ from him in the interpretation of prophecy. His work may lead others to a more extensive view of the subject: and the clergy cannot be too much occupied in explaining the mysterious ways of Providence, and refuting whatever may be unfounded in the explanations of disputants who judge differently. The serious disposition of the present writer may be traced in the following extract.

'A persuasion, which the events of ten years have served to make invincible, has sunk deep into my mind, that an awful crisis is at hand, and that what we have seen is but the beginning of sorrows; that the wonderful occurrences of the present moment, so little expected a few weeks ago, are pregnant with others still more astonishing; and that, however unconscious the principal actors in the great drama may be, of the parts which they are acting in the tragic accomplishment of the awful decrees of heaven, yet they are fulfilling

Digitized by Google

"the determinate counsel of God" in bringing about the execution of the judgments which he hath prepared. This is my apology, if an apology be thought necessary for this publication of my thoughts. Others may think that such discussions "ought to be discouraged;" and that, "from the prophetical books, to which the extraordinary events now passing on earth naturally turn the attention of every religious mind, no expectation"—(as to the unfulfilled prophecies drawing to a speedy completion)—"can reasonably be drawn." Every man (unless we have lost all our liberties, and no one may speak or write any thing but what favours the continuance of the present destructive measures) has a right, modestly, to declare his own opinion; and I freely confess that mine is very opposite to the above, and that I think such discussions ought to be encouraged and pursued, and that much, as to the general outline of things, may be learnt from the prophecies,—and even courtiers thought so a few years ago, when the subject made in their favour. I think the most attentive research ought to be made, at this time of fearful expectation, especially into this part of sacred writ, and that an alarm ought to be sounded in every ear,—that the neglect of our clergy, particularly on this head, and the attempts which are made to excite prejudice against such subjects, and thus divert the public attention from them, is one of the most fatal "signs of the times;" and what operates to harden the nation in impenitence, and to give additional strength to that dangerous infatuation which has seised the public mind—a blind and furious infatuation, that threatens us with speedy ruin. If I err, either in the sentiments which I entertain, or in the attempts which I make to draw the attention of my countrymen to these subjects, I am sure my error is innocent, because I am certain my inquiries are sincere, and my motives and intentions pure. If reproached, I cannot blush; if persecuted, I cannot be afraid. But a few words shall suffice for this conclusion. However defective the execution of what has been undertaken in the foregoing pages may be, the subject most certainly is of serious importance. That the prophecies, if we have formed right notions of them, look with a very unfavorable aspect on the cause we are engaged in, is acknowledged; but, though we were to shut our eyes against them, this would not make our case the better; and it is possible that some good might be derived, would we come to the light, that our deeds might be reproved. The hope of this good, however distant and faint, is enough to induce every lover of mankind to venture much to do all he can to effect it.

'But let us remember, it does not follow, because our cause may be bad, that therefore that of our enemy is altogether good. By no means. The crimes which have been committed are without a parallel, and cannot go unpunished. All that the author wishes to impress upon the reader's mind is, that there is reason to conclude, both from prophecy and the appearance of things, that God, in his mysterious providence, is employing the French (be they deists or atheists, or whatever they may) as instruments to scourge the nations for their sins, and particularly to inflict his decisive judgements on anti-christian and Mahometan oppressors;—that on our part, as Christians and Protestants, it would have been wise and

Digitized by Google

sight to have done every thing possible to have avoided becoming parties in the present horrible conflict; that we have committed a fatal error in linking ourselves with those whom our common religion has taught us to consider as devoted to destruction; and that therefore no time should be lost in endeavouring to escape the danger we have brought ourselves into—a danger which, however things might seem at first, or however they may now appear to some, becomes, in the opinion of many, more and more threatening at every step we advance.' P. 112.

ART. 26.—*An Apology for the Sabbath. By John Prior Estlin.* 8*vo.* 1*s.* 6*d.* Johnson. 1801.

The puritanical observance of the sabbath which has long particularly marked some of the sectaries in this country, excited among others a more rigid inquiry into the nature of the day; and, offended with the pharisaic scruples of the former, many of the latter ran into the contrary extreme, and either perverted the institution by appropriating it entirely to their pleasure, or, calling in question its utility as a period of public devotion, made no distinction at all between this and the other days of the week. Admirably useful, during the existence of this contest between opinions, is the sermon before us; it is addressed to the understanding; and the evidence which the subject requires is stated in the clearest and most dispassionate manner. This will be conspicuous from the concessions made by the preacher in the commencement of his discourse.

'To prevent mistakes, I set out with allowing, in the most explicit manner, that the law of the Jewish sabbath is a law to the Jews only. I likewise grant that the practice now under consideration has not the sanction of any express precept of the New Testament. Whether there are not other grounds of obligation, is a point which remains to be considered. Let truth prevail on whichever side it lies—"I speak as unto wise men; judge ye what I say." P. 5.

The main argument for the observance of the sabbath is 'its utility, and indeed absolute necessity.' It is probable that it made a part of the patriarchal religion, and that the day which is now selected is the same which the patriarchs observed. This topic of time is well insisted upon, as it obviates the arguments used by those who call in question the Christian institution, on the ground of its nonconformity with the Jewish. The opinions of Selden, Limborch, &c. with their followers, Paley, Geddes, Evanson, are fully stated, and left to the judgement of the reader; and it may be thought by some that too great concession is made in allowing part of the sabbath to be employed, in case of necessity, in the works of the harvest. The whole question, however, evidently reposes upon the first chapter of Genesis, which is confirmed by the practice of Christians from the earliest periods; and no one who seriously reflects upon the present state of the world, the ignorance of the multitude, and the indifference of the higher classes to religious concerns, could wish for any innovation on so excellent an institution, even if it had not the sanction of divine authority.

Digitized by Google

'Rest, particularly to brute animals, which in this country are treated by many with disgraceful cruelty, and by most with a less degree of attention than is due to creatures who are susceptible of pleasure and pain, and to whose services we are so much indebted; rest, comfort, and moral improvement, to servants; the constant worship of Almighty God; reading the Scriptures and books of moral instruction; partaking of the Lord's supper; the cultivation of every excellent disposition; and, above all, love to God, and love to man;—these are the peculiar duties of the sabbath. Let us, my friends, practise them with undivided attention, with minds tuned to the employment, until we have learned to make every day a sabbath,—and then we shall not easily be induced to neglect them,—and until we are qualified for that eternal sabbath which we hope to enjoy in the more immediate presence of God himself, with Jesus Christ, with saints and angels, and with the spirits of the just made perfect.' P. 47.

This discourse deserves to be put into the hands of all those, who, though they still retain a veneration for Christianity, are in danger of falling into the coldness of fashionable indifference, and who, if they neglect the means afforded them once a week, of cultivating an acquaintance with their own minds and their higher concerns, will soon be totally absorbed in the frivolity or traffic of the age, and become the mere drudges of pleasure or of Mammon.

ART. 27.—*A Sermon preached at the Parish Church of St. Andrew by the Wardrobe and St. Anne, Blackfriars, on Tuesday in Whitsun-Week, May 26, 1801, before the Society for Missions to Africa and the East, instituted by Members of the established Church, being their first Anniversary. By the Rev. Thomas Scott.—Also the Report of the Committee to the Annual Meeting, held on the same Day; and a List of Subscribers and Benefactors. To which is prefixed an Account of the Society. Printed by Order of the general Meeting.* 8vo. 2s. Seeley. 1801.

Far be it from us to propose the least obstacle to the excellent object which this sermon has in view—the promotion of religious knowledge among the heathens. It is on the contrary with the greatest pleasure we perceive a society is formed for sending missionaries for this purpose to remote corners of the earth, now sitting in darkness and the shadow of death. The society is said to be instituted by members of the established church, and we wish that their number may be increased; yet upon looking at a list of their names, it evidently appears that it has taken its rise from the evangelical or methodistical party; and on this account a degree of watchfulness is necessary, lest, in the midst of zeal to promote the general truths of Christianity, the discipline of the church should be forgotten, or very imperfectly regarded. To give a missionary episcopal ordination with reference to the heathens only, is impossible; and as clergymen are not easily to be found to venture upon such expeditions, the society has devised a mode of supplying that defect, by bestowing on its missionaries the powers only of an instructor, or, as they choose to term it, a catechist. Hence the missionary may

Digitized by Google

instruct, but he must not baptise or administer the Lord's supper: but when a congregation is formed, a minister is to be appointed, with proper powers from the bishop. Of this regulation we cannot fail to approve; but we could have wished that a farther security had been given to the church, by providing that no one should be sent as a missionary whose testimonials, signed by two or three clergymen, had not been inspected and confirmed by the bishop of London. Besides the exodus of missionaries, it is an object of the society to translate the Scriptures into the languages of various countries where they are not yet known, and to disperse translations of the Scriptures in those countries where Christianity has not hitherto been acknowledged. These intentions of the society are well inforced by the preacher; and the report, together with the appendixes—the one by Mr. Carlyle recommending an Arabic edition of the Scriptures, the other by Mr. Mosely on printing them in Chinese and circulating them through Asia—deserves the attention of every serious Christian.

LAW.

Art. 28.—*Collectanea Maritima; being a Collection of public Instruments, &c. &c. tending to illustrate the History and Practice of Prize Law. By Chr. Robinson, LL.D.* 8vo. 3s. sewed. Butterworth. 1801.

These documents, which are to be continued, show that the right of search has been acknowledged, and made part of the naval economy, of the last three centuries. The present treaty of peace will place this right, most probably, on a better footing than it has hitherto stood; for as to the fling at 'the trimness of modern theories,' we cannot see why men in these days are not as well qualified to understand and settle this subject as the persons who drew up the documents anterior to us. The technical man of law is generally however tied down to musty rolls of parchment, and detests every thing that alters the practice to which he has been accustomed. If a thing happen to have been done a hundred years ago, with him it must be wise, and every modern improvement is folly; yet men will speculate and improve, because the acts of their ancestors, which might in their time have been founded on consummate wisdom, cease in the course of ages to be practical or beneficial. We shall be happy to see the right of search restricted to those warlike stores only which shall be specified between the parties; and if privateering should hereafter be considered as piracy, mankind will be benefited, though Doctors' Commons should suffer by the new theory.

Art. 29.—*Inquiries into the Nature of Leasehold Property; in which the relative Situations of Lessor and Lessee, Landlord and Tenant, are fairly considered. By a Gentleman of the Temple.* 8vo. 1s. 6d. Bickerstaff. 1801.

The writer wishes that the 'subject had fallen into better hands, as the importance of it well deserved.' Our wishes coincide with his own. He seems not to be sufficiently aware of the nature of leases.

Digitized by Google

When the property is vested in the landlord, it cannot be doubted that another person has no right to occupy it; and if he will purchase the permission of occupying it, the terms must depend on the proprietor, and the lease is a simple contract, as in the case of any other bargain of hire. The endeavour to give a lessee, in church, or college, or hospital, or corporation, any sort of property-right in the soil, and to limit the proprietor's power in setting the fine of renewal, is too absurd to be admitted for a moment. The lessee, in this species of property, has generally his right in it subjected to the covenants in the lease or contract for twenty-one years, if land—forty years, if houses. At the expiration of this term he has no right to complain on dismissal: and this cannot take place by surprise, for at the end of the first seven years he must expect it, if his lease be not renewed; and the renewal of the lease is and ought to be solely in the breast of the landlord or proprietor.

ART. 30.—*Act of Grace, &c. explained to a Man of singular Character and Consequence, now a Prisoner in a County Gaol.* 8vo. 6d. Parsons. 1801.

From this work we learn that a great number of debtors in the Fleet prison have signed a petition to the king, praying that 'he would exert his royal interference, and induce the other two branches of the legislature to consent to their release.' Every humane man must lament the state of so many of his fellow-creatures who are more severely punished for misfortunes than others for real crimes; yet we would rather see their release effected by a total change in the laws respecting debtor and creditor, which, according to this work, evidently want revision, than by an act of royal favour. The whole question lies in a narrow compass. Is insolvency a crime, or not? If it be a crime, let it be examined by a grand and petit jury, and proper punishment be inflicted on the offender. If it be a misfortune only, what inhumanity as well as folly it is to preclude a man from the use of all his powers, and thus to aggravate his misfortunes! The present system offends against every dictate of sound sense, which prescribes proportion in the punishment of crimes; while in this case no proportion at all is observed. The fraudulent stand the best chance of escape; the honest and unfortunate see no end to their miseries. We recommend this pamphlet to both debtor and creditor.

AGRICULTURE, &c.

ART. 31.—*National Irrigation, or the various Methods of watering Meadows; affording Means to increase the Population, Wealth, and Revenue of the Kingdom, by an Agricultural, Commercial, and general Economy in the Use of Water. By William Tatham.* 8vo. 9s. *Boards.* Carpenter. 1801.

Though we do not greatly approve of our author's language, and in some instances doubt of the correctness of his views, yet his general principle deserves our commendation,—particularly his recommendation of uniting canals, with the projects of draining or

Digitized by Google

of irrigation. Our author, too, should have pointed out more distinctly what lands require irrigation, and what water is advantageous when conducted over lands. Every soil and every spring are by no means suitable. He has however collected much valuable information on the subject from the practice of different counties, particularly from that of Aberdeenshire, where barren heaths are said, by this method, to be converted into fertile fields.

The practice of irrigation, though long neglected, was very ancient, and is mentioned by various authors. Mr. Tatham has only given an imperfect sketch of its history. How could he have overlooked this common line? It may serve as a motto for his second edition:—

'Claudite jam rivos, pueri: sat prata biberunt.'

ART. 32.—*A Letter on the Drainage of the East, West, and Wildmore Fens: addressed to the Proprietors of Rights of Common on these Fens, and to the Proprietors of Estates in the North Marshes, in the County of Lincoln. By Thomas Stone, Land-Surveyor.* 8vo. 1s. Cawthorn.

We have lately had occasion to say much of Mr. Stone and this county. We have always thought him a man of abilities and judgement, and this letter tends rather to confirm than alter our opinion.

MEDICINE, &c.

ART. 33.—*Cases of Phthisis Pulmonalis, successfully treated upon the Tonic Plan; with introductory Observations. By Charles Pears, F.M.S. F.L.S. &c.* 8vo. 2s. 6d. Murray *and* Highley. 1801.

Mr. Pears, evidently a young author, enters the lists with the first practitioners, and even with the experience of successive centuries. Wine, animal food, bitters, and tonics, are his remedies, with little discrimination of situation and circumstances. Like a sturdy Brunonian, he speaks with the utmost complacency of his own plans, and with little reserve of the conduct of others. Our faith and our temper have been lately put to severe trials. We began with doubt: farther inquiries changed those doubts into absolute disbelief; and the evidence on the contrary side became so strong, that, uncharitable as it may seem, we almost suspected that some authors courted popularity by strong assertions which they knew to be false. We recollected the strong sarcasm of Voltaire—*il ne le croit pas; il l'a seulement écrit*,—and were led to apply it to authors who publish, as cures, cases which, in the moment even of publication, terminated fatally; who publish other editions, and other cases, without noticing the events which invalidated the former evidence. Such *eagerness*—we could give it a harsher name—has greatly disgusted us, and must disgust the world, were it once known. Our present author does not come under these imputations. He is only sanguine and unexperienced; but he is much too confident; and, though some of our reflexions may seem severe, they are the milk of human kindness compared with his imputations.

Digitized by Google

ART. 34.—*An Essay on the Plague: also a Sketch of a Plan of internal Police, proposed as a Mean of preventing the spreading of the Plague, should it be introduced* (absit tamen) *into this Country. By William Falconer, M.D. F.R.S. and Physician to the Bath Hospital.* 8vo. 2*s.* Robinsons. 1801.

The essay before us contains a very judicious abstract of what has hitherto been written on the plague, and very salutary directions for avoiding infection. We should not add a syllable to a very general and unreserved commendation, were it not in defence of Dr. Cullen. Dr. Falconer observes some little disagreement in different parts of Dr. Cullen's directions respecting sweating in the plague and other eruptive fevers; but we know that he neither approved of warm regimen, nor of sweating, in the general acceptation of the term. He meant what Chenot calls *diapnoë*—a free *insensible* perspiration.

ART. 35.—*The Anatomist's Vade-Mecum; containing the Anatomy, Physiology, the morbid Appearances, &c. of the Human Body; the Art of making Preparations, &c. Fourth Edition, corrected and enlarged. By Robert Hooper, M.D. F.L.S.* 12mo. 7*s. Boards.* Murray *and* Highley. 1802.

We have noticed the former editions of this work with approbation, and find it gradually improving. We think it a valuable assistant; but in a future edition would recommend adding the chemical analysis of the different animal fluids.

ART. 36.—*Experiments and Observations on the Medicinal Waters of Hampstead and Kilburn. By John Bliss.* 8vo. 2*s. sewed.* Phillips. 1802.

These experiments are well conducted, and described with great propriety and judgement. The Hampstead water contains a small proportion of iron, and a somewhat larger one of sulphat of lime, with other salts of less importance. It acts as a tonic and a stimulant, but rather binds than loosens the intestinal discharge. The other, about two miles distant, is a saline and purgative water, and, as Mr. Bliss very properly suggests, will render, in proper proportions, the Hampstead water more efficacious.

EDUCATION.

ART. 37.—*Viridarium Latinum; ou, Récueil des Pensées et Bons-Mots les plus remarquables, tirés des plus illustres Orateurs, Poëtes, et autres Ecrivains, tant Grecs que Latins, traduits en Italien et en François, Article par Article, à Côté des Originaux: auquel on a ajouté une Collection Angloise de Maximes instructives et amusantes, extraites des Auteurs les plus célèbres: le tout destiné à l'Avancement des jeunes Personnes qui étudient ces différentes Langues, ainsi qu'à l'Amusement des Personnes d'un Age mûr. Par Gaetano Ravizzotti, &c.* 8vo. 7*s. sewed.* Deboffe. 1801.

The Latin Parterre; or, a Collection of Sentiments, Bons-Mots, &c.

Mr. Ravizzotti has not, in our opinion, presented any thing to the world, in this collection, that will be at all likely to effect either of the purposes which he pretends by it: 'it will not help forward

Digitized by Google

such young persons as are studying the different languages; nor will it afford much amusement to persons more matured in age and knowledge.' Had a collection of the best bons-mots, happy thoughts, and judicious phrases, been made from different authors, whether Latin, French, or Italian, and presented to the public in the original idiom of each, such a work would have been an amusement for persons of mature age. Or, had the solecisms and peculiarities of one of these tongues been exemplified by comparisons with the other two, such a work might have afforded help and instruction to students. But neither of these advantages is attained in the volume before us.—We will present the reader with a couple of examples that he may judge for himself.

'CXVI.

'Bona existimatio pecuniis præstat.
La bonne réputation est préférable aux richesses.
Il buon nome è preferibile alle richezze.

'CXVII.

'Homini est propria veri inquisitio atque investigatio.
La recherche de la verité est le devoir propre de l'homme.
Di ricercare la verità è dover proprio dell' uomo.' p. 49.

Both of these Latin sentences are certainly true: but there is not a school-boy of ten years old who has not received the information already; nor is there any sort of dialectic knowledge gained by his reading them in the three versions; for the construction is so simple that he could not mistake it. A volume of old saws exhibited in one language, is, according to the present price of paper, a kind of extravagance; but two *literal* translations, added to it, render it extreme prodigality. The mode of the work throughout is the same as in the two examples which we have given; and few of the *pensées* and *bons mots* are more to the purpose.

Art. 38.—*Harry and Lucy. In Two Parts. Being the First and Second Parts of Early Lessons.*

Art. 39.—*Rosamond. In Three Parts. Being the Third, Fourth, and Fifth Parts of Early Lessons.*

Art. 40.—*Frank. In Four Parts. Being the Sixth, Seventh, Eighth, and Ninth Parts of Early Lessons. By Maria Edgeworth.* 24mo. 6d. *each Part.* Johnson. 1801.

We have often lamented that books composed for the use of children are filled with words far beyond their comprehension: it is therefore with much pleasure we notice an attempt to level instruction to capacity. In the first part of these works we rarely met with a word that would cause a child to stop for its explanation; and, in the latter volumes, if hard words do sometimes occur, yet they are by no means so plentiful as in the generality of books of this kind; and frequently the author is very careful to explain them. The lessons are easy and intelligible; they contain little incidents in common life, calculated to excite the curiosity of children, and to afford them considerable instruction. A child of nine or ten years old, and under,

Digitized by Google

who is left to read these books by himself, and afterwards asked easy questions on their contents, with references to the page for the proof of what is asserted, will be led by degrees to what Miss Edgeworth evidently wishes to fix in the young rational mind—a habit of *thinking*, instead of (as is the case in too many schools) a knack of gabbling a parcel of words by rote, which tend to no good purpose, and which have but one fortunate circumstance attending them—that they are soon again forgotten.

ART. 41.—*Three Stories for young Children. By Maria Edgeworth.* 24*mo.* 6*d.* Johnson. 1802.

These little stories are by the same author as the foregoing articles, and are executed in the same profitable manner.

ART. 42.—*Moral Tales; designed to amuse the Fancy and improve the Hearts of the rising Generation. By the Rev. Edmund Butcher. To which is added, by a Lady, The Unhappy Family, or the dreadful Effects of Vice. A Tale.* 12*mo.* 2*s. Boards.* Vernor *and* Hood. 1801.

Mr. Butcher has here produced two pretty little stories for the use of children. Henry's residence on the uninhabited island is too much a copy of Robinson Crusoe; and it is not likely that bread, an axe, and just such other things as were immediately useful, should be the only articles cast on shore from a wreck;—but upon the whole the tales are both instructive and entertaining. The lady makes us laugh in her story, by recovering a person from insensibility with *narcotics*. This female physician surely could not know that narcotic signifies *stupefying*.

POETRY.

ART. 43.—*Lines on the Death of the late Sir Ralph Abercromby. By the Author of the Conspiracy of Gowrie.* 4*to.* 1*s.* Bell. 1801.

'Shades of the brave, firm honour's martial train,
On Asia's neighbour strand in conflict slain;
Who sought of yore on Faith's strong wing to rise,
And buy with life the mercies of the skies;
Shades of the brave, whom English Richard led
Where war its hallow'd devastation spread,
For whom the minstrel, bard of the olden time,
In many a banner'd hall awoke the rhyme;
Who, whilst the vanquish'd crescent trail'd the ground,
And exultation pausing ceas'd to sound,—
Still true to nature, passion'd as you were,
Pour'd forth on bended knee the sainted tear:
If e'er 'tis yours to leave the seats above
And visit once again with holy love
The scenes where first you drank the light on earth,
Or where you, dying, met your second birth;
If e'er 'tis yours, with more enlighten'd aim
To scan the thoughts that stirr'd your mortal frame,—

Digitized by Google

Hither, tho' now, perchance, decreed to feel
With pow'r enlarg'd the *universal* weal,—
Hither, still mindful of the dubious strife,
That form'd the troublous cares that fever life;
Where Abercromby fell, O! haste to meet,
And with a general hail his spirit greet!
'Well, well ye know, that never nobler heart
Impell'd the warrior to his destin'd part,—
That England's safety cheer'd his parting breath,
That England's good was paramount in death.
'And sure, if admiration still rehearse
Your waste of valour in undying verse;
If truth for you, reluctant as she may,
Still own sincere the fire that led astray;
If meek religion, though she mourns to hear,
Embalm your memories with a pitying tear;
For *him*, unmix'd the stream of praise shall rise,
Spread wide on earth, and hallow'd in the skies!' P. 9.

These lines are evidently produced by a writer of more than common powers: but the poem, from its brevity, is more adapted for a news-paper or magazine than for separate publication.

We cannot but remark the adulatory dedications that disgrace the present and former production of this author.

ART. 44.—*Ode to the Memory of Sir Ralph Abercromby, and the glorious 21st of March*, 1801. *By Anthony Todd Thomson.* 4to. 1s. 6d. Trepass. 1801.

Sterling poetry, like sterling cash, is not always to be had on demand. Upon these temporary subjects better lines can hardly be expected than the following.

'Where the red sun with solemn march
Adown the western steep descends,
O'erspreads with fire the azure arch,
Lo! a troop of warriors bends:
Inhabitants of brighter climes!
Souls of the brave in battle slain!
Your splendent deeds thro' unborn times
Shall roll, and still new lustre gain!
Behold! behold! each waves his hand,
Welcomes the soul that wings his flight
To regions of empyrean light,
A partner of their blissful band:
And, while they swell the choral lay,
In celestial accents say—
Ah! why is heard the voice of woe?
Why is dropp'd the pitying tear?
Bedeck not with the cypress bough
The hoary victor's honour'd bier:
He needs no tear, in Honour's arms who dies,
Nor Sorrow's sable train to grace his obsequies.' P. 9.

Digitized by Google

The pamphlet concludes with two of the worst rhymes we have ever seen.

'Stranger! exultest thou in joyous youth,
Go—emulate an Abercromby's worth.'

ART. 45.—*Ocean: a Poem, in Two Parts. By Mason Chamberlin, 8vo. 1s. 6d. sewed.* Clarke. 1801.

If we examine this poem by the rules of Horace, and transpose the words, we shall make it *sermo merus*; as we have fully experienced by *transposing*, as Bayes says, different passages. The prose however is neat and pleasing. The picture of the fisherman was never a portrait; for different are the manners of these rough sons of Neptune; and the descriptions are in general neither animated nor picturesque.

ART. 46.—*Carminum variorum Macaronicorum Delectus, in Usum Ludorum. Fasciculus Primus.* 1801.

Macaronic poetry soon loses its relish; but we find in this collection entertainment of a superior kind. The first only is a macaronic poem—the 'Dunghill Battle between Lady *Scotstarvet* and Lady *Newbarns*,' written by William Drummond early in the seventeenth century. The manners of this period are antiquated, and the humor to us at least somewhat obsolete. The second is a very classical and almost literal translation of Christ's Kirk on the Green, in Latin hexameter and pentameter; and the third, a humorous version of the contest between Ajax and Ulysses. Of course, the latter appears in a ludicrous garb, and not very unlike Cotton's Travesty of Homer. These two last poems possess much merit in their different lines, and will be highly entertaining to those acquainted with the Scottish dialect.—The *Ludi Apollinares* allude, if we mistake not, to the Golf club on the Links of Leith.

ART. 47.—*The Sacred Meditations of John Gerhard, translated into Blank Verse. By W. Papillon, Clerk, M.A. &c. 8vo. 5s. Boards.* Egerton. 1801.

That poetry is too often made subservient to very bad purposes, must be lamented by every Christian; and that it may be advantageously employed in the holiest exercises, the Scriptures abundantly testify: yet this attempt to make it more profitable will by no means answer the writer's laudable expectations; and he is equally unfortunate in the choice of his model, and the dress in which he has clothed the theologian in our language. It is German divinity in blank verse, or rather prose numbered by syllables.

ART. 48.—*The Sorrows of Love; a Poem. In Three Books. 8vo. 4s. Boards.* 1801.

Of this author we can only say, that he writes smooth verses, and understands Persian.

Digitized by Google

ART. 49.—*Alfonso, King of Castile: a Tragedy, in Five Acts. By M. G. Lewis.* 8vo. 2s. 6d. Bell. 1801.

With no inconsiderable portion of modesty Mr. Lewis offers this piece to the public,—'not as a good play,' says he, 'but as the best that I can produce. Very possibly no body could write a worse tragedy; but it is a melancholy truth that I cannot write a better.' P. iv.

In regard to the plot, we have assuredly no right to examine it by the light of history, because the author candidly confesses that he has departed from it. He has however, we must acknowledge, not diminished the interest which the reader feels in the fate of his characters. The versification is in general bold and spirited, but the thoughts are frequently too high-flown and overstrained. The course of Mr. Lewis's reading may be traced in this, as well as his other works: all his passions are expressed in ungovernable language; and the wild impetuosity of Schiller and the German dramatists is visible in every page. It appears as if the author were laying great violence on his inclinations in keeping the ghosts off the stage in the fourth and fifth acts, for he cannot forbear making them visible to Ottilia and Amelrosa. We beg leave to congratulate him on this victory over his prejudices; and to remind him, that true fame consists in the approbation of the discerning few, not in the shouts of the vulgar.

——————— Eripe turpi
Colla jugo. Liber, liber sum, dic! age.—— HORACE.

ART. 50.—*Holiday Time; or, the School-boy's Frolic: a Farce in Two Acts. As performed by his Majesty's Servants of the Theatre-Royal Norwich, with universal Applause. By Francis Lathom.* 8vo. 1s. 6d. Longman *and* Rees.

The mind of Mr. Lathom may be perceived here, as in other works, to be capable of considerable invention; but this farce is not of consequence enough to merit much investigation. Although it be not in our power to bestow upon it any great share of praise; yet, to use his own words, he shall not in us 'meet with critics sufficiently sour to frown upon a School-boy's Frolic.'

NOVELS.

ART. 51.—*Letitia; or, the Castle without a Spectre. By Mrs. Hunter of Norwich.* 4 *Vols.* 12mo. 1*l.* 1s. *Boards.* Longman *and* Rees. 1801.

A fitter title for this work would have been 'The Letitias,' for it is the history of three—the grandmother, mother, and daughter. Miss Letitia Dashmore marries Mr. Marchmount; their daughter Letitia marries Mr. Rushwood; and, again, their daughter Letitia marries Alfred Langstone. The first of these ladies is but seventeen when her story commences, and the novel is not concluded till the last has presented her husband with two boys. It is a pity that Mrs. Hunter did not make one of them a girl, and then she might have gone on with the history of Letitia *ad infinitum*. The work

Digitized by Google

however is not destitute of merit; but the continuation 'from generation to generation' cannot fail to tire a reader's patience.

ART. 52.—*Helen of Glenross; a Novel. By the Author of Historic Tales. 4 Vols. 12mo. 16s. Boards.* Robinsons. 1801.

The author of the volumes before us is of the *penseroso* school. The tale does not end, like the generality of novels, in a happy wedding, but in the death of those who had married unhappily.

'In the common tales of devoted beauty, a delicate mind finds so little sympathy, that it hardly serves for warning against errors too broad to require much caution to avoid. But the purest may sympathise in Helen's fate—may learn diffidence from her story, and be convinced it is easier to avoid imprudence, than to prevent or remedy the evils that follow it.' Vol. iv. p. 264.

The story is an interesting one, and the incidents are pathetic. The writer also evinces some poetical merit in the ballad style, by a reverie on the daisy, in the second volume.

ART. 53.—*Ariel; or the Invisible Monitor. In Four Volumes. 12mo. 18s. sewed.* Lane. 1801.

There is a peculiar cast of character assigned to one of the personages in this novel, which, although extravagant, will gain it the favour of the fair, and which is indeed a much more pleasant piece of machinery than ghosts and goblins—the attendance of the chevalier St. Alvars upon Rosaline in the guise of an aërial spirit. Notwithstanding that this circumstance is a little too fanciful, we cannot refuse our approbation to the work in general. The incidents are such as to interest the reader continually; and the fortitude of the heroine is dignified and constant. We were sorry, however, to see that Sir Walter's conduct did not rise equally high with her own; for Adolphus's head might have been turned by anxiety, and Rosaline's heart broken by grief, had not the baronet's folly been gratified by her proving in the end a sprig of nobility.

ART. 54.—*The History of Netterville, a Chance Pedestrian; a Novel. 2 Vols. 12mo. 8s. Boards.* Crosby *and* Co. 1802.

We cannot say much in favour of these volumes. The catastrophe is not badly brought about: but there is hardly an event or an expression in the work that may not be met with in former works of this nature.

MISCELLANEOUS LIST.

ART. 55.—*An accurate and impartial Narrative of the Apprehension, Trial, and Execution on the 5th of June 1798, of Sir E. W. Crosbie, Bart.; including a Copy of the Minutes of the Proceedings of the Court-Martial which tried him; together with authentic Documents relating to the whole of his Conduct, and the Proceedings against him. Published, in Justice to his Memory, by his Family, 8vo. 3s.* Hatchard. 1801.

The family of the deceased publish these proceedings to vindicate

Digitized by Google

the memory of their relative; and, as far as we may credit the account—and we see no reason to doubt any part of it—Sir Edward suffered unmerited punishment. The publication is a very extraordinary one. Transactions are made known scarcely to be paralleled in the horrors of the French revolution; and we could not have believed it possible that a circumstance which lady Crosbie has established upon oath that she heard from the sufferers, and which they were ready to confirm on their affidavit, actually took place by the order of the president of the court-martial, if we had not heard an Irish gentleman of high rank vindicate the bloody, barbarous, and absurd mode of extorting evidence by the torture of flogging. It is said that, previous to the trial, two day-labourers, and the postillion of Sir E. Crosbie, were offered their choice—either to criminate the unfortunate baronet and be set free, or be flogged. They refused to criminate, as they said, an innocent man. They were then severely flogged, and questioned again; and persisting in the same conduct, the barbarous order was issued—Lay on the rascals fifty more! It is to be hoped that due inquiry will be made into the conduct of the late courts-martial in Ireland; from which, we presume, it will appear, that if there ever be a necessity for their use, except in the army, they are at least totally disqualified to judge in civil transactions; and no circumstances whatsoever can require the adoption of them, if the trial be to last, as in this instance, more than a day.

Art. 56.—*A Narrative of the Life of Sarah Shade, born at Stoke Edith in the County of Hereford; containing many well-authenticated and curious Facts, more particularly during her Voyage to the East Indies, in the New Devonshire Indiaman, in the Year* 1769, *and in traversing that Country in company with the Army, at the Sieges of Pondicherry, Velore, Negapatam, &c. &c. Together with some extraordinary Accounts of the Ferocity of Tigers, Jackals, Piah Dogs, Vultures, &c. Taken down by some Gentlemen, and published for her Benefit.* 8vo. 2*s*. Hatchard, 1801.

Sarah Shade, now living at N° 5, Little Chesterfield-street, Mary-le-bone, the subject of this Narrative, has gone through many very strange adventures, which are recorded in this work. Some of them border so nearly on the incredible, that we might be almost justified in withholding our assent from them till a more exact inquiry into the truth has been instituted; but the number of names mentioned in the work, of persons, many of whom must now be living, lead us to believe that there is sufficient evidence for the chief part of the history. We are the more inclined to place a reliance on the credibility of the publishers, as some facts relative to the tiger, inserted at the end of the narrative, have been related to us by other and most unquestionable testimony. As the Narrative is said to be published by some gentlemen for the benefit of the poor woman who has been such a sufferer, we have given the place of her abode, that the curiosity of some of our readers to hear from her own mouth her strange adventures may be gratified, and she may be assisted in return by their benevolence.

Digitized by Google

ART. 57.—*Hints for increasing the Splendor of Illuminations, securing the Pleasure of the Spectator, and the Convenience of the Householders; with some Remarks for the Prevention of Tumult and Disorder. Particularly adapted to the Illuminations expected to take Place on the Proclamation for Peace with the French Republic. By Photophilos.* 8vo. 1s. Jordan. 1801.

There cannot be a more pleasing sight than a general illumination upon a cessation of war; and the benevolent author of this publication seems to be impressed with an idea which we should be glad to see realised, that an illumination may be made 'a heart-enlivening spectacle to all, both rich and poor.' For this purpose he has suggested several hints which merit the attention of the public. He considers the object, the restoration of peace, as worthy to be celebrated in the most solemn manner; he deprecates a state of war with a truly Christian spirit, and reprobates our perpetual interference in continental politics with the ability of a statesman. The attention of the police is called upon to prevent those scenes of riot and tumult which too frequently disgrace our streets; and it cannot be doubted that with very little effort the quiet of the metropolis might be preserved, and squibs, crackers, and the firing of blunderbusses, confined, as the author suggests they should be, within their proper limits. District committees are recommended for the purpose of illuminating objects best adapted to the occasion; and the housekeeper is instructed how to enrich, at very little expense or trouble, the brilliancy of the scene. The opulent are called upon to produce their statues and their vases, their chandeliers, and many other ornaments of their mansions—the tradesman to display in his drawing-room the best productions of his art or manufacture. The vulgar are not forgotten; and proper places for their bonfires and more clamorous diversions are pointed out. The pamphlet is worthy the perusal of such public-spirited men as would wish to see the metropolis gratified by a spectacle in which elegance and magnificence may be combined at the smallest expense; and the hints suggested to housekeepers may afford the younger branches of their families opportunities of displaying their taste, as well as much innocent and useful amusement.

ART. 58.—*Analytical Hints relative to the Process of Askerman, Suardy, and Co.'s Manufactories for Water-proof Cloths, and Wearing Apparel, at Belgrave-Place, Chelsea, and at Messrs. Douglass and Co.'s Manufactory, Cuper's Bridge, Lambeth.* 8vo. 1s. Hurst. 1801.

We have reviewed this subject in many a heavy shower, and, on the whole, think well of the invention. We have seen the rain stand in pools on the skirts of the coat thrown over the saddle, but we have also found it penetrate: it is not, however, an objection to a valuable invention that it is not infallible. The method is highly ingenious: it renders a light flexible cloth capable of resisting very heavy showers; nor is it, as the patentees observe in their very candid defence now before us, warmer than other cloth, by confining the perspiration. Let us however advise them not to remit in their attention to the manufacture: from some complaints, we are led to suspect that it is sometimes unequally prepared.

Digitized by Google

ART. 59.—*Animadversions on Dr. Dickson's Translation of Reflexions on the Theory of the Infinitesimal Calculus (the Doctrine of Fluxions). From the French of C. Carnot. By Henry Clarke.* 8vo. 6d. Hurst. 1801.

The translator of Carnot has, it seems, fallen into an error in the transformation of an equation, which has procured for him some very pert and, we may add, illiberal insinuations from the writer. The equation is,

$$\text{`}\frac{TP+T'T}{y}=\frac{2y+RZ}{2a-2x-MZ};\text{'}$$

which Carnot transformed very properly into

$$\text{`}\frac{TP}{y}-\frac{y}{a-x}+\frac{T'T}{y}-\frac{yMz+aRZ-xRZ}{a-x\times 2a-2x-MZ}=0.\text{'}$$

This is shown to have been rightly done by our author; namely, by multiplying the numerator and denominator of $\frac{2y+Rx}{2a-2x-Mx}$ into $a-x$; whence we have

$\frac{2y\times\overline{a-x}+aRx-xRx}{a-x\times 2a-2x-Mx}$; but $\frac{2y\times\overline{a-x}}{a-x\times 2a-2x-Mx}$ is the same as $\frac{y}{a-x}+\frac{yMx}{a-x\times 2a-2x-MZ}$, and whence Carnot's transformation is justified. Having settled this point, our author gives the translator a lesson on the subtraction of algebraical quantities, which, he says, 'will be evident to every one who can conceive that a negative quantity subtracted is in effect an affirmative one added.' We see no difficulty in the subtraction of the terms; but an author who could write the sentence we have just quoted might have had more compassion for the translator, notwithstanding his error. We set his nonsense on the subtraction of a negative quantity against the translator's mistakes; and the two mathematicians will now, we hope, shake hands and be friends;—at the same time we are persuaded that the translator will avail himself of the remarks of this writer on the first opportunity.

ART. 60.—*The Case of the Farmers; with an Appendix, and a Dedication to the Board of Agriculture; and an Address to all present and future Writers on Agriculture. By a Hertfordshire Farmer.* 8vo. 1s. Badcock. 1801.

A strong remonstrance in favour of farmers, but in a much superior style. The object is to lengthen in general the period of leases: and this period is by no means an improper or an unreasonable one, viz. nineteen or twenty years. Our experience differs, however, from the author's. We have not known any profession in which fortunes have been more certainly acquired. We call it a profession; for the farmer must be *regularly bred*, and continue to superintend every part, or we fear that fortune will be, as usual, fickle. If the landlord look forward to the improvement of his estate, he will not find our farmer's requisition improper.

Digitized by Google

ART. 61.—*A Guide to Madeira; containing a short Account of Funchall, with Instructions to such as repair to that Island for Health.* 8vo. 1s. Longman *and* Rees. 1801.

Madeira was a desirable retreat for the invalid while other parts of the continent were precluded; but we know no reason why it should not supersede the more celebrated spots, for it seems to have almost every requisite for health, except some little comforts in the lodgings, which we have reason to think will soon be supplied. This Guide will afford very important assistance; and, if the advantages of climate, &c. are not exaggerated, and we have no reason to think that they are so, Madeira seems to afford a very salutary retreat.

ART. 62.—*Melancholy; as it proceeds from the Disposition and Habit, the Passion of Love, and the Influence of Religion. Drawn chiefly from the celebrated Work entitled 'Burton's Anatomy of Melancholy;' and in which the Kinds, Causes, Consequences, and Cures of this English Malady*

'———*are traced from within*
Its inmost Centre to its outmost Skin.'

12mo. 5s. 6d. *Boards.* Vernor *and* Hood. 1801.

This is a first-rate man-of-war cut down to a cock-boat, by omitting the useless digressions, and curtailing a little of the gossiping language. The whole is newly cast; but, though the present work is of a more modern architecture, we own that we prefer the Gothic, with all its faults and inconveniences. A well-executed frontispiece faces the title; but it is unpleasing in the expression, and so *faithful* as to excite the most painful sensations.

ART. 63.—*Practical Observations on Angling in the River Trent. By a Gentleman resident in the Neighbourhood.* 12mo. 3s. 6d. *Boards.* Robinsons. 1801.

These remarks are adapted chiefly to the Trent: but the greater number will admit of a more extensive application. They are very minute, perspicuous, and, on the whole, will probably be found useful.

CORRESPONDENCE.

WE are obliged to Mr. Morrice for his good opinion, and glad that his inquiries respecting the universities have led him to retract his general censure of them for inattention to the truths of religion: at the same time we must beg him to pursue his researches still farther; and he will find that in both universities there are *collegiate* as well as *public* lectures on the truths of religion.

Digitized by Google

THE

CRITICAL REVIEW.

APRIL, 1802.

ART. I.—*Alfred; an Epic Poem, in Six Books. By Henry James Pye. 4to. 1l. 5s. Boards.* Wright. 1801.

NOT many months have elapsed since we had occasion to express our opinion, that some parts of the transactions of Alfred afford a happy subject for the epic muse; and, from a note which occurs in p. 239 of the work before us, we learn that Milton was of the same opinion: 'A heroïcal poem,' says he, 'may be founded somewhere in Alfred's reign, especially at his issuing out of Eddington on the Danes.'—If it be remarkable therefore that two contemporary bards, without any apparent communication with each other, should at length have embraced the same subject for an epic poem, it is perhaps still more remarkable that so fruitful and patriotic a theme should have remained unsung for so many centuries.

Mr. Pye's poem opens with the arrival of a stranger in the court of Gregor king of Caledonia, who is hospitably entertained, while the secret grief under which he seems to labour is soothed by the minstrelsy of the bards. The musicians adverting, in the course of their songs, to the fate of Oscar and Malvina, the stranger is affected with still deeper sorrow; and his distress is thus described with true poetic dignity.

'Here passion's torrent swell'd the stranger's breast,
And all the man of sorrow stood confess'd;
Across his face his robe he drew, to hide,
Of gushing tears, the involuntary tide;
Attentive, Gregor mark'd his struggling pain,
And still'd, with hasty voice, the plaintive strain.

"In vain, O King," the mournful warrior said,
"To me, is pity's generous tribute paid.—
If, while thy tuneful bards, in lofty lays,
Sung Caledonia's woes in earlier days;
If, while of chiefs they sung, who erst defied,
In many a field, the Roman tyrant's pride,
Struck by the verse, thou and thy princely peers
Pour'd to the strain the heartfelt praise of tears;

Digitized by Google

O think what pangs of grief this heart must know,
What tears of sorrow from these eyes must flow,
Which recent and tremendous scenes have view'd,
Of public rapine, and of kindred blood;
Seen Desolation stalk with demon-form,
O'er Albion's fields, and swell th' ensanguined storm;
Seen, while her bravest warriors died in vain,
Barbarian victors waste her fair domain,
While Treachery gored, with parricidal hand,
The bleeding bosom of its native land;
Seen each endearing charity of life,
A smiling infant, and a blooming wife,
Torn from these arms, stretch'd to protect, in vain,
Their helpless virtues from a lawless train.—
Forgive these sighs from homebred anguish grown,
Amid my people's wrongs I feel my own.
He vainly boasts a patriot's grief to know,
Whose tears for kindred sufferings never flow.
No!—though my country's wrongs, with venom'd dart,
Strike keenest tortures through this wounded heart;
Still must my bosom feel for ties more near,
Still must Elsitha claim her Alfred's tear." P. 13.

The Caledonian monarch being thus apprised of the name and quality of his illustrious guest, proceeds to inquire into the late events of the contest between the Saxons and the Danes; which gives occasion to Alfred to relate the outline of his own history, bringing it down to the conclusion of the fatal battle of Wilton. Being defeated in this battle in consequence of the treachery of Ceolph, he had been compelled to wander through Britain an outcast and a fugitive, not only deprived of his kingly honours, but separated from his beloved consort Elsitha, whom he thus apostrophises at the close of the first book.

"Elsitha! lovely consort of my heart!
From thee, from all I value, doom'd to part,
Uncertain of thy fate, while thought forbears
To image half the horrors that it fears,
Awhile with desultory pace I stray,
Fix'd to no point, as Chance directs my way.
My southward course the unbridled rage of war,
And barbarous foes, and faithless vassals, bar.
O'er many a blasted heath and mountain drear
Wandering, behold the wretched Alfred here!
I come to Caledonia's kindred plains,
Where generous Pity dwells, for Gregor reigns,
Secure to find, in his high-trophied walls,
Heroes to fly where suffering Virtue calls." P. 36.

The recital made by Alfred of his own sufferings, and of the misfortunes of his subjects, kindles a virtuous ardour in the

Digitized by Google

heart of Donald the son of Gregor, to march at the head of a body of Scottish troops to the succour of the English king. To this request Gregor assents, and the Caledonian warriors are summoned to accompany their prince on this generous expedition. They embark at Solway Frith; and we shall quote, as a happy specimen of Mr. Pye's descriptive powers, the following narration of their voyage.

'Soon to blue air melts Scotia's southmost height,
And rise Ierne's mountains to the sight;
Swiftly they pass the stormy seas that roar
Incessant round Menavia's lonely shore,
Till full in sight the rocky point appears;
Her lofty brow where hallow'd Mona rears,
And hoary Conway, famed in Druid lore,
Pours his hoarse flood from Arvon's craggy shore.

'As now by Cambria's western point they keep,
Where from Dimeta's turrets on the deep,
Low in the western wave Sol sunk his head,
Painting his radiant couch with fiery red,
Omen of future tempest,—O'er the deep
The brooding winds in sullen silence sleep;
Around the yard the loose sail flagging plays,
No more the bark the pilot's hand obeys.—
Short, and insidious calm—the flitting breeze,
First, desultory, lifts the sparkling seas;—
Then louder swells the blast,—against the shore
Dreadful, and near, the frothy breakers roar:
And, o'er the sable veil of murky night,
Incessant flashes shed terrific light.
Useless the oar, and dangerous now the sail,
The giddy vessels drive before the gale;
Part on the sea's tempestuous bosom toss'd,
Part forced disastrous on the rocky coast.' P. 52.

By the fury of the storm the ship of Alfred is wrecked, and he alone of all the crew is saved from the overwhelming billows. Having climbed to the summit of the rocky shore, he fixed an anxious eye on the ocean,—

'Nor saw one wreck of all the naval train
Amid the vast expanse of sky and main.' P. 56.

His hopes being thus extinguished, he turns his footsteps towards the interior of the country, and takes shelter in a cottage; in which retreat he passes many sorrowful days.

'His hours, employ'd in constant tales of woe,
Nor beam of hope, nor smile of solace know;
Still heaves his bosom with the heart-felt sigh,
Still patriot sorrow dims the monarch's eye.

Digitized by Google

Day after day fleets on in cheerless mood,
While, as the swain his sylvan toil pursued,
Sad o'er the hearth the pensive hero hung,
Fix'd his unweening eye, and mute his tongue,
Deeply intent on scenes of present woe,
Or planning future vengeance on the foe,
The objects round him, like the viewless air,
Pass o'er his mind, nor leave an image there;
Hence oft, with flippant tongue, the busy dame
The reckless stranger's apathy would blame,
Who, careless, let the flame those viands waste
His ready hunger ne'er refused to taste.
Ah! little deeming that her pensive guest,
High majesty, and higher worth, possess'd;
Or that her voice presumptuous dared to chide
Alfred, her country's sovereign, and its pride.' P. 62.

From this state of inactivity, however, the Saxon king is roused by the accidental arrival of Ethelwood, who informs him that, notwithstanding the greater part of his dominions are wasted by the Danish invader, Oddune earl of Devonshire still holds out, though besieged in Kenwith castle.

The cottager being apprised of the dignity of his guest, proposes to conduct Alfred to a place of greater safety—a marshy island situated at the confluence of the Thone and Parret. The offer is accepted; and the passage of the travelers, across the ford to this asylum, occupies the commencement of the third book. During his residence in the isle of Ethelny, Alfred, in the course of a lonely walk, traces the current of a rivulet, till he at length arrives at a cavern;—of which Mr. Pye gives the following elegant description.

'In foaming eddy, where the lucid tide
Pours headlong down the high clift's rugged side,
A grove of dusky pines athwart the glade
Shoot, with projected limbs, a solemn shade;
And as aloft the quivering branches play,
Shut from the soil the garish eye of day.
Deep in the dark recess, with briars o'er-grown,
A cavern opens in the mossy stone:
O'er its dank mouth the flexile ivy grows,
Where an aged yew funereal shadows throws;
Scath'd oaks their knotty branches fling around,
With mystic misseltoe their summits crown'd;
While, echoing to the torrent's distant shock,
Howls the dread whirlwind through the creviced rock.—
Albeit unused to fear, the monarch's breast
Pants, with an awe, unfelt before, impress'd,
And, o'er his better reason, sudden spread
Terrific chills of superstitious dread.' P. 82.

Digitized by Google

This solemn preparation ushers to our view a druid, who, 'rapt into future times,' foretels to Alfred the fate of his posterity. In this narration it may easily be imagined that the laureat would not fail to introduce an eulogy on the reigning monarch.

'And see, best glory of that patriot race,
Her monarch, Briton-born, Britannia grace;
Loved, honour'd, and revered by all, save those
Who, foes to Freedom, to her friends are foes.
But foes in vain—for Anarchy's wild roar
Shall never shake this heaven-defended shore,
While Freedom's sons gird Freedom's sacred throne,
With loyal Faith's impenetrable zone.
O'er laurels Rome's sweet poet cull'd to grace
The mighty hero of the Julian race,
Shall rise the glory of his honour'd name,
"Nor oceans bound his sway, nor stars his fame."—
Ocean but rolls his azure waves to guide
His fleets to empire, o'er his ambient tide;
And far beyond the planets that appear
Circling, in ceaseless course, the earthly sphere,
Beyond the stretch of human eye-sight far,
Improving Science hails the Georgian star.' P. 98.

In the fourth book, the conference between Alfred and the bard is interrupted by the arrival of a Saxon, sent in quest of the king, and commissioned to communicate to him the joyful intelligence of the success of Oddune earl of Devon, against a Danish armament just arrived from Ireland. Alfred immediately hastens to the camp of Oddune, and is received with transport. After reviewing his forces, the monarch discloses to his counsellors his intention of visiting the Danish camp in the disguise of a minstrel, that he may become acquainted with the number and plans of the enemy.

To this camp, and in this disguise, he repairs.

'With joyful look the wary hero view'd
Stern Vigilance, by long success, subdued;
Saw daring Courage turn'd to frantic heat,
And Victory prepare her own defeat;
But, as along the noisy camp he pass'd,
Listening to Riot's roar in every blast,
Startled with horror and amaze, he hears
The whisper'd sound of "Alfred!" strike his ears.
Instant he turns, alarm'd—his warlike hand
The useless harp quits for the shining brand,
When thus the voice—"My king! my master! say,
What fiend has tempted here thy dangerous way,
'Mid scenes where ruthless Hate and envious Strife
Lurk, in dread ambush, for thy sacred life?

Digitized by Google

O, fly this fatal place, weak all disguise
To hide thy well-known form from Treason's eyes.
Many are here, like me, of Saxon race,
The servile ministers of foul Disgrace,
Prompt to betray, for Treachery's base reward,
That prince whose life my dying arm would guard.' P. 137.

This friendly monitor proves to be Edgar, to whose custody Alfred had entrusted Elsitha and his infant son. Edgar, notwithstanding his treasonable residence in the Danish camp, informs his sovereign of the retreat in which he had secured the queen: on which Alfred immediately returns to his troops, at the head of whom he hastens to the spot where she is secreted.

'With all their leader's wrongs enflamed, the band,
Elate in arms, a radiant phalanx stand.
By Edgar guided, through the waning night,
Through the first orient streaks of dawning light,
Onward they press,—but when the mounting ray
Profusely pour'd the golden flood of day,
Cautious, and wary, of the neighbouring foe,
Beneath the shade their wearied limbs they throw:
But soon as Eve distills her balmy dew,
Again the chiefs their silent march renew,
Till, urging on the sable noon of night,
As the bright stream reflects a feeble light,
On its green edge, by contrast dim, display'd,
The holy turrets rise in glimmering shade.—
Sudden they halt—when, with terrific clang
Of martial shouts, the echoing arches rang;
Blazes with sudden light the solemn pile,
And torches glide along each fretted ile.
With female shrieks the vaulted roofs resound,
By the loud bell's tremendous pealing drown'd.
The notes of horror strike the valiant train,
Thrill in their ears, and harrow every vein.
Not so their chief—at once his active mind,
In passion cool, each circumstance combined.—
That one neglected moment might destroy
The treasury of all his promised joy
He saw—and bade the clarion's warlike breath
Swell the vindictive strain of war and death;
Through every cell the martial thunder broke,
To each astonish'd Dane defiance spoke.' P. 142.

The Saxons rush on the invaders, and rescue Elsitha and her companions from the meditated insult. And here we cannot but observe, that the laureat would have excited a much more lively effect had he represented this happy interference as altogether a casual and unexpected incident. The effect we refer to is in some measure produced shortly afterwards, by

Digitized by Google

Alfred's joyful meeting with Donald and his Caledonian troops, whose apprehended destruction he had so feelingly deplored; and also by the discovery of Donald's early though subdued passion for Elsitha.

In the fifth book, the traitor Ceolph, burning with resentment on account of the violation of his daughter Emmeline's honour by one of the Danish chiefs, repairs to Alfred's camp, earnestly requesting his injured sovereign to doom him to the death which he both merited and wished. By the clemency of Alfred, however, he is spared to execute vengeance on the foe. In the early dawn of the day the Saxon warriors move forward, and, in the course of their march,—

'Passing the borders of the forest drear,
A shriek of female anguish pierced the ear,
And, starting from the shade, a figure wan,
With piteous plaint arrests the wondering van.
Loose flow'd her careless robe, her streaming hair
Floated, in ruffled tangles, to the air,
And on her livid cheek and haggard eye,
Throned in imperial state, sat Misery.

'With voice by weeping choked, convulsed her breast,
The woe-lorn form the passing host address'd.
"O, see before you, humbled to the dust,
A victim sad of cruelty and lust.—
When in the battle's doubtful shock ye join,
Think of the horrors of a fate like mine;
The curses of a violated maid
Shall nerve each arm, shall sharpen every blade.
For me—conceal'd my lineage and my name—
Ah, once my country's glory! now its shame!—
One only way remains from deep disgrace
To clear the offspring of a noble race."—
She ceased—and instant in her struggling breast
Her fatal poniard sheath'd, and sunk to rest.' P. 156.

This injured female is the daughter of Ceolph. Fired by the sight of her sufferings, the troops of Alfred hasten to fall upon the invaders. The battle of Eddington ensues, which Mr. Pye describes with classic circumstantiality. The Danes are defeated; but Alfred counts the battle dearly won, by the death of Donald, who is slain in the heat of the engagement. The fall of night terminates the battle, and, with it, the fifth book of the poem.

In the sixth book, we find the Saxon army pursuing the advantage which they had gained, and blockading the Danish camp on Ashdown-hill. By the light of the moon, a body of Danes are seen hastening their flight over the adjacent plain. They are surrounded and taken prisoners. A youthful warrior, who was entrusted to their protection, is conducted into the

Digitized by Google

presence of Alfred, who generously assures him of safety; on which unexpected promise,—

'Contending passions struggling in the breast,
Low sinks the youth, by fear and hope depress'd,
Edgar, as prompt to succour and to spare,
As the dread front of bleeding war to dare,
Caught the faint stripling ere he reach'd the ground,
And from his head the shining helm unbound.
Though on the lips was Death's pale ensign spread,
Though from the cheek the blooming rose was fled,
Though on the liquid radiance of the eyes,
The sable lash a silken curtain lies;
Yet o'er the brows, which, with the forehead, show
Like jet encircled in a bed of snow,
Flows in loose ringlets to the fresh'ning air
The soft redundance of the ambrosial hair,
And charms, of more than mortal grace, betray'd
The form and features of a beauteous maid.' P. 219.

This beauteous maid is Emma, the daughter of Guthrum the Danish chief—admiration of whose charms had for a time seduced Edgar into the service of the Danes; from which treason he was, as we have before observed, converted by his regard for the personal safety of Alfred. When Guthrum is apprised of the captivity of his daughter, he repairs to the camp of Alfred for the purpose of ransoming her. After sternly refusing the proffered gold, and apprising his suppliant that he will allow him but a short space to deliberate upon his choice of battle or unconditional submission, Alfred continues:—

'For this sweet maid, whom Fortune's changeful hour
Has given a captive to my happier power,
Whether you yield to Concord's gentler charms,
Or dare the stern arbitrement of arms,
I pledge my faith her beauties to restore,
Free, and unransomed, to her native shore;
Or, if she fear o'er Ocean's wave to roam,
I am her parent, and my realm her home.' P. 225.

Guthrum is so much affected by the generosity of Alfred's purposes with regard to his daughter, that he yields to his mercy, and, together with his troops, adopts, by the ceremony of baptism, the Christian profession. A chorus of bards now advances to congratulate the Saxon prince on his victory; and the inspired druid again strikes the prophetic string, to celebrate the establishment of the university of Oxford, the personal freedom which the wise institutions of our Saxon ancestors secured to the meanest citizen, the wide extent of British commerce, the union of Britain and Ireland, the happy life and mature death of Edward the son of Alfred, and—what a noble

Digitized by Google

summit to the climax! Mr. Pye's publication of Alfred, an epic poem in six books! This is a species of puff for which the writer is certainly entitled to a patent: it is altogether original, never having, to the best of our knowledge, been thought of by Bays, or any other wit.

Such is the argument of the poem before us; and our readers are now enabled to form a judgement of its general outline, in which we think the author's principal merit consists. As to imagination, he neither elevates the mind nor agitates the feelings. The character of Alfred contains nothing forcible or interesting—nothing which evinces the hand of a master; while his queen is a more common character than himself. Mr. Pye seems to have studied books more than the world: he vainly endeavours to make up the want of the language of passion by narration and epithets; and his poem contains little, very little, of true dramatic spirit. Mr. Pye appears also unfortunate in his determination to write an epic poem in rhyme; by the dire necessity of providing for which, he is frequently seduced into an unwarrantable phraseology. The quotation of a few instances will illustrate our meaning.

> 'O sire! O sovereign! let thy favouring *breast*
> Propitious *hear thy Donald's first* request.' P. 45.

Again—

> 'Fenced by whose sacred leaves, the royal brow
> Mocks the vain lightnings aimed by Faction's blow.' P. 88.

We are persuaded that the necessity of rhyme alone compelled Mr. Pye to introduce the awkward idea of a *breast hearing*. And what but the same cause could have betrayed him into the following tame tautology, which occurs in p. 46?

> 'My fondness shall not dim thy warlike fire,
> Or check that courage which it must admire.'

A similar instance strikes us again in p. 62:

> 'How horde succeeding horde, in countless band,
> Spread desolation o'er the ruin'd land,
> Swept o'er the cultured plains in sanguine flood,
> And mark'd their course by carnage and by blood.'

Of passages which appear to us to be enfeebled by this radical defect we could gather a copious harvest; but we are confined within certain limits; and willingly forego the unpleasant task of multiplying quotations which critical justice compels us to mark with disapprobation. Before we conclude our article, however, we must be permitted to remark, that we were surprised to find, in the work of a translator of Aristotle's

Digitized by Google

Poetics, so many mixed and incongruous metaphors. The following passage is extremely faulty in that respect:

> 'A sacred throne on Mercy's basis rear'd,
> By Virtue foster'd; by Oppression fear'd;—
> To which thy guardian laws shall boast they gave
> One power by aught uncheck'd, the power to save.' P. 90.

Here the throne is first an inanimate substance reared on a basis; but, by the *hocus pocus* of our poet's language, it soon becomes a person, and is fostered, feared, and possessed of power. Mr. Pye's occasional attempts to put into metre the popular political phrases of the times frequently betray him into great incorrectness and a vitiated form of expression, which in the present cultivated age is almost unpardonable: for the remark of the elegant La Harpe is strictly just,—'L'indulgence se mesure encore sur le temps où l'on a ecrit, et sur le plus ou moins de modèles que l'on avait. Quand une fois ils sont en grand nombre, les fautes ne sont plus rachetables qu'à force de beautés.'

ART. II.—*Encyclopædia Britannica; or, a Dictionary of Arts, Sciences, and Miscellaneous Literature, &c. Illustrated with Five Hundred and Forty-two Copper-plates. The Third Edition, greatly improved.* 18 *Vols.* 4*to.* 27*l. Boards.* Lackington *and* Co.

ART. III.—*Supplement to the Third Edition of the Encyclopædia Britannica, &c. By George Gleig, L.L.D. &c. Illustrated with Fifty Copper-plates.* 2 *Vols.* 4*to.* 3*l. Boards.* Lackington *and* Co.

FIFTEEN years have elapsed since the same hands, which have lately turned over the pages of the third edition of this Dictionary, with its Supplement, opened it on its earliest appearance. Various circumstances at that time prejudiced us against it; but we perused it with patience, with all the impartiality in our power, and were convinced of the general merits of the work. After another examination, we have recurred to our former article in the 64th volume, O.S.; nor do we meet with a word there that, 'dying, we would wish to blot.' Whatever we have blamed has been since corrected. The changes in fifteen years must be of course numerous; and the additions, in an age of rapidly improving science, not less so.

In that volume of our journal in which we considered the present work, and the improved edition of Mr. Chambers's Cy-

Digitized by Google

clopædia published at the same period, we gave at some length our ideas of the utility of such an attempt—of its objects and execution. These remarks we need not repeat, and we perceive nothing that can at present be added. It remains only to speak of the improvements in the third edition, and of the merit of the two supplementary volumes.

It is singular that two works of the same kind, both of acknowledged desert, should have been undertaken by two individuals, and brought to no small degree of perfection, with very slight assistance. We allude to Mr. Chambers's Dictionary, and this before us. The latter was almost exclusively the labour of Mr. Macfarquhar, a printer. In its progressive editions, however, the assistants have been numerous and able.

'In a collection so extensive and multifarious, a few mistakes, repetitions, and omissions, might surely be passed over without severity of censure, although the publication had from the beginning to the end been superintended by the same man; but they will be allowed to have been almost unavoidable, when it is known that, after the work was far advanced, it was committed to the care of a new editor, who, though he was in a great degree a stranger to the contents of the printed volumes, found no clue of his predecessor's which could guide him accurately through those to be compiled.

'We beg it to be understood, that this observation is not made with a view to remove any share of blame from the second to the first editor; for Mr. Colin Macfarquhar, who conducted the publication beyond the middle of the twelfth volume, was a man whom few who knew him will be disposed to blame, and on whose industrious integrity those who knew him best must admit that it would be difficult to bestow too much praise. Born in Edinburgh of parents respectable, though not affluent, he was, at an early period of life, bound an apprentice to a printer. This profession gave him a taste for science and literature, or rather furnished him with opportunities of cultivating the taste which he derived from nature; and he soon became well acquainted with the most popular writers in natural history, and in natural and moral philosophy. When he opened a printing-house of his own, rectitude of conduct quickly recommended him to friends and to employment; and the unremitted prosecution of his studies eminently qualified him for superintending the publication of a new dictionary of arts, sciences, and literature; of which, under the title of Encyclopædia Britannica, the idea had been conceived by him and his friend Mr. Andrew Bell, engraver. By whom these gentlemen were assisted in digesting the plan which attracted to that work so much of the public attention, or whether they had any assistance, are questions in which our readers cannot be interested. Suffice it to say, that Mr. Macfarquhar had the sole care of compiling the present edition; and that, with the aid of a very few literary friends, he brought it down to the article Mysteries, in the twelfth volume, when he was cut off in the forty-eighth year of his age by a death which, though not sudden, was perhaps unexpected. His career was indeed short; but of him it may be said

Digitized by Google

with as much propriety as of most men, *Nemo paribus diu vixit, qui virtutis perfectæ perfecto functus est munere.*' P. xii.

His successor was Dr. Gleig of Stirling, who had antecedently assisted him, but with whom he had no confidential correspondence respecting the plan. The former editions were however before him; and we should suppose little difficulty could have arisen in consequence of this source; and indeed little has arisen. We consider it however as an imperfect apology, when we perceive the editor remarking, that, where the system is defective in its principal article, the omissions are supplied in some subordinate ones. As we have formerly observed, every subject is a branch, and on it those thence derived should depend, without becoming either more important than their principal, or assuming its office. It is indeed better that an irregularity should be allowed, than that necessary information should be omitted; but the excuse is the subterfuge of haste, inaccuracy, or inattention. It is equally an error perhaps, from the same source, when subjects are not found under those heads where they would be chiefly looked for. It is no excuse that they occur under others, unless this be pointed out. Several omissions are however allowed; and these we suppose have rendered a supplement necessary.

The original work was comprised in ten volumes; and, we showed, in our remarks on the first edition, that the compilers had not only injudiciously contracted their limits, but not employed their space to the best advantage. The two last volumes were consequently very inadequate to the subjects to be treated of. In the third edition they thought themselves secure in promising that it should not extend beyond eighteen volumes, and that any increase in the bulk should not be attended with additional expense to the subscribers. But they still calculated erroneously; and though they disposed of their materials with more skill, and employed less space in trifling explanations, much was still omitted, and many subjects too hastily passed over. We mean not to deny that the editors exerted themselves with perseverance, and extended their volumes with unexampled liberality;—but they had involved themselves in a rash engagement; and to retreat with decency was a comparative victory. The plan of the Encyclopædia Britannica is now well known; and that the additions of biography and geography are valuable ones in the opinion of the public, may be supposed, from this part of the plan being imitated in Dr. Rees's new edition of Chambers's Dictionary. The account of the contributors to the third edition before us will conclude all that we need observe on this subject.

For whatever instruction may be conveyed in the articles Anatomy and Surgery the public is indebted to Andrew Bell, F.S.S.A.

Digitized by Google

one of the proprietors, and the ingenious Mr. Fyfe. From the former of these gentlemen the world will soon receive one of the most splendid anatomical works which it has yet seen; and as the latter has long officiated under Dr. Monro as dissector in the anatomical school of the university of Edinburgh, it is needless for us to say how well he must be acquainted with the subjects on which we employed him to write. Aërology, Aërostation, Chemistry, Electricity, Gunnery, Hydrostatics, Mechanics, Meteorology, with most of the separate articles in the various branches of natural history, we have reason to believe were compiled by Mr. James Tytler, chemist; a man who, though his conduct has been marked by almost perpetual imprudence, possesses no common share of science and genius. The article Blind was furnished by Dr. Blacklock and Dr. Moyes, both blind themselves, and both men of superior attainments; the former in elegant literature, and the latter in the physical sciences. We believe that the article Education was composed by Mr. Robert Heron, author of a history of Scotland now publishing, who likewise furnished the greater part of what we have published under the titles Religion and Society. The lives of Johnson and Mary queen of Scots, with the articles Instinct, Love, Metaphysics, Miracle, the history of ethics under Moral Philosophy, Oath, Passion, Plastic Nature, Polytheism, Prayer, Slavery, and Supper of the Lord, were contributed by Dr. Gleig, editor of the last six volumes; Grammar and Theology by Dr. Gleig and the reverend James Bruce, A.B. late of Emmanuel college, Cambridge; and Motion by Dr. Gleig and Mr. Tytler. The system of Medicine, which was published in the former edition, was revised and improved for the present by Andrew Duncan, M. D. fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, and professor of the Institutes of Physic in the university. The notes to the article Music were contributed by Dr. Blacklock, and the history of the art by William Maxwell Morison, Esq. advocate, who likewise favoured us with what we have published on the science of Physiognomy. The articles Mysteries, Mythology, and Philology, we owe to the erudition of David Doig, LL.D. F.S.S.A. master of the grammar-school of Stirling, and author of two very ingenious letters on the Savage State, addressed to the late lord Kames. Navigation, Parallax, Pendulum, Projection of the Sphere, Ship-building, and Naval Tactics, were furnished by Andrew Mackay, LL.D. F.R.S.E. of Aberdeen, and known to the public as author of a treatise on the Theory and Practice of finding the Longitude at Sea or Land. John Robison, M.A. secretary to the Royal Society of Edinburgh, and professor of natural philosophy in the university, did the editor the honour of contributing to the Encyclopædia Britannica the valuable articles Physics, Pneumatics, Precession of the Equinoxes, Projectiles, Pumps, Resistance of Fluids, River, Roof, Rope-making, Rotation, Seamanship, Signals, Sound, Specific Gravity, Statics, Steam and Steam-Engine, Strength of Materials, Telescope, Tide, Articulating Trumpet, Variation of the Compass, and Water-Works. Philosophy is the joint production of professor Robison and Dr. Gleig. Physiology was furnished by John Barclay, M.D. of Edinburgh, whose merits, if the editor be not partial to his friend, it

Digitized by Google

will raise high in the estimation of men of science. The essays on Predestination and Providence were contributed by Robert Forsyth, Esq. advocate; the account of the French Revolution by Mr. Forsyth and Dr. Gleig; and Oxygen and Phlogiston by John Rotheram, M.D. professor of natural philosophy in the university of St. Andrew's.

'The other contributors to the first part of the work we cannot enumerate; but we know that much useful information was occasionally communicated by Dr. Latham of Dartford in Kent, the celebrated ornithologist; by Dr. William Wright, physician-general to the forces in the West-Indies under the command of sir Ralph Abercrombie; by the reverend J. Hawkins, vicar of Halsted in Essex; by the late Mr. Adams, mathematical instrument-maker to his majesty; and by Mr. William Jones, optician, in Holborn, London. There is, however, no man to whom the proprietors of the Encyclopædia Britannica feel themselves under greater obligations than to Dr. Black, for the very handsome offer which he made to the person who was at first intrusted with the chemical department of the work. And while they express thus publicly their gratitude to him, may not the editor declare how much he is indebted to his two assistants, the reverend James Walker, M.A. of St. John's college, Cambridge, and Mr. James Thomson of Crieff, preacher in the church of Scotland? Of these gentlemen, who successively had the care of the work when he was necessarily absent, he could always say, *Quibus in rebus ipsi intereſſe non possumus, in his, opera nostra vicaria fides amicorum supponitur.*' P. XV.

Whatever may have been the omissions in the third edition of the Encyclopædia, from the want of mutual confidence and the necessary co-operation between the first and the second editor, they may be well supplied in a supplement. Supplements are in general a sort of wounded snakes, which drag their slow lengths along; but in a work of this kind they are necessary appendages, whether we consider the successive editors, or the rapidly succeeding improvements of an age peculiarly active and successful in every scientific pursuit. It is also with great propriety conducted by the editor who succeeded Mr. Macfarquhar, who could be best aware of the omissions or errors, and consequently could best supply or correct them.

The authors of many of the articles in the Supplement are noticed in the advertisement which precedes it. Professor Robison's labours in the Encyclopædia began with *Projectiles*, and, consequently, the greater number, and the more important articles, from the former gentleman, occur previous to that part of the alphabet. Thus we find that we are indebted to him for the articles Arch, Astronomy, Carpentry, Centre, Dynamics, Electricity, Impulsion, Involution and Evolution of Curves, Machinery, Magnetism, Mechanics, Percussion, Piano-forte, Centre of Position, Temperament in Music, Thunder, Musical Trumpet, Tschirnhaus, and Watch-work.

Digitized by Google

To Dr. Thomas Thompson our author was indebted for a very extensive and elaborate article on chemistry, for an article on mineralogy, and another on dying substances. Dr. Wright has persevered in his botanical assistance; and Mr. Playfair has communicated one mathematical article, which we shall in course notice. The account of the French revolution is continued by the editor and professor Robison; but to this subject also we shall recur more at large.

The rest of the information in the advertisement is not of great importance. In biography, the editor soon found he had taken too extensive a range, and was obliged to confine himself to those who were eminent in science or literature, or were patrons of either. Some references therefore, in the early articles, will not be found in their place. The progress also of science and revolutionary events is so rapid, that the reader is requested to hasten from the article of Galvanism to Torpedo, and from Revolution to the life of marshal Suworow.

We perceive with great satisfaction, that, through the whole of the Supplement, there is a constant reference to the Encyclopædia; that errors of the press, or more important ones, are carefully corrected; new and fuller information supplied; and that the accounts are more scientifically compressed. Indeed, so anxious is the editor of the Supplement to correct mistakes, that we have occasionally thought him a little hypercritical, and that faults, sometimes ostentatiously pointed out, might without danger have been passed over. The error however, if it exist, is on the right side. It is impossible to notice all the new articles; but we shall again turn over the pages, and give a general account of the more considerable improvements.

We met, very early, with a neat little addition to the article of 'action,' which perhaps we should not have regarded in this place, but to have marked its contradiction to some important parts of the work itself. The author contends very properly, that an agent cannot act where it is not; but the error seems to be in not admitting the influence of any known or supposed medium. We think it highly probable, if not certain, that even in the apparent impulse of bodies they are not in contact, so that they cannot act immediately on each other. It would be singular if the æther of Newton were not sufficient to explain the greater number of phænomena, since from these its supposed properties are derived: it is a creature of imagination, formed to give a plausible explanation of appearances, and aiming at no more. A greater fault is, however, the inconsistency of this article. It contends that the influence of the sun or moon cannot produce tides, because there is no immediate action; while in the Encyclopædia itself this phænomenon is decidedly attributed to attraction. It rests also, in its reasoning, on the *vis inertiæ* of matter; while one of the most striking, the most

Digitized by Google

judicious and philosophical, articles in the Supplement, avoids this principle, which, like many other parts of the mechanical system, requires at least a little modification. Whatever may be the merit of the present article—as it is so contradictory to the general doctrines of the work—it should not have found a place in the Supplement, without some remarks from the editor.

We find some very useful and necessary additions to the Encyclopædia in the earlier pages of the Supplement, particularly under the word 'alum,' where there is a very comprehensive abridgement of M. Vauquelin's experiments. The article of 'arch,' contributed by professor Robison, is also a most masterly one: we have seen nothing, on this or on a similar subject, so clear, scientific, and comprehensive. Could we stay to analyse any article, or indeed were it in our power, from the possession of plates, we would not pass this over so cursorily. We believe the doctrine of arches derived from the properties of the wedge was published since the appearance of this Supplement; but it is here unnecessary.

The additions to the article 'architecture' contain only abstracts from a paper on the origin of Gothic architecture, published in the last volume of the Edinburgh Transactions.

The new article of 'astronomy' is a valuable and comprehensive supplement to the former, and contains some necessary additions. We find however in this some hints in opposition to the æther of Newton; but we must allege—and we fear no contradiction—that all the phænomena require the intervention of some subtile fluid between bodies. A very little refinement, which will bear the test of examination, may soon reduce all the appearances supposed to result from actual contact to the action of this fluid. It is enough however if the imaginary intermede fulfil all the offices required.

Various biographical sketches follow, which we cannot always enumerate. With respect to the lives of the famous or infamous Bahrdt, and of the fallen degraded Bailly, we may again enlarge, when we speak of the article of *illuminés*—a sect which may have been diverted to unworthy purposes, but which many, who are inimical to its principles, do not believe to have been originally designed for such. In the life of Behem, the author or editor appears to be convinced of his having discovered the American continent previous to the voyage of Columbus, and adduces strong arguments in favour of this opinion. The assertion requires a longer discussion than we are enabled at present to give it; yet we own that we are unwilling, according to the present evidence, to deprive Columbus of the honour. The other lives under this second letter of the alphabet are numerous, and contain more valuable information. Of Dr. Berkenhout we have some important information, not generally known; and we think that he deserved an ampler

Digitized by Google

range. His quickness, the clearness of his views, and the extent of his information, might have led him to a much higher station in the temple of fame, or of science, if he had not been compelled to court the Cynthia of the minute. Of Bernoulli, of Blacklock, of Bonetus, and Bonnet, we do not perceive that we have more than was before known. To the life of Blacklock, an early and valuable contributor to the Encyclopædia, we hoped something might have been added: yet the prior account, dictated by warm affection, was perhaps sufficiently full; and the little that we could supply from an ardent friendship and almost reverential regard is perhaps too trifling to find a place in such a volume. Of Boscovich, and his system, the statement is full and judicious. His systems of natural philosophy and of light are detailed with great perspicuity and propriety; and if the doctrine we have hinted at, that all the phænomena of actual contact may be justly attributed to the action of an interposed fluid, be ever fashionable, to Boscovich the merit of the first idea is due. We would, however, warn the eager theorist and the hypercritic, that no conclusion can be drawn from the admission of this doctrine, in favour of materialism. It is not indeed our present business to do more than guard against the consequence; yet as calumny is always eagerly alive, we shall remark that the existence of a fluid, *connected with a body*, implies the *existence* of the body. If he advance a step farther, and conclude that, provided we can explain the phænomena without the assistance of matter, we may at once deny its existence, we shall only add that the conclusion is unwarranted by the premises. It is rash, injudicious, and unphilosophic. The mechanical philosopher calculates the power of his machines by considering a line as without dimensions, except in length; but never constructs his model without taking into the account the thickness, the weight, and the action of the bar.

Of Bouguer, Brindley, Burke, and Burns, we have good and satisfactory memoirs; yet, on the whole, we have nothing added which, as a novelty, can arrest our attention. In the life of Bruce we find a disquisition of some ingenuity, respecting his pretensions to the discovery of the head of the Nile. It is not a question in which, after what has been said, we need again engage; but we shall add some observations which, at least to us, are new. They may indeed admit of a reply: but we shall not have leisure to return to the subject.

'A more serious objection to the truth of Mr. Bruce's narrative was started by an anonymous, but able critic, in an Edinburgh newspaper, soon after the publication, from the account of two astronomical phænomena, which *could not possibly have happened*, as Mr. Bruce asserts. The first of these is the appearance of the new moon at

Digitized by Google

Furshqut, during Mr. Bruce's stay in that place, which he mentions to have been from 25th December 1768 to the 7th of January 1769; and on a particular day in that interval asserts, that the new moon was seen by a fakir, and was found by the ephemerides to be three days old; whereas it is certain that the moon changed on the 8th of January 1769.—The other phænomenon appears equally impossible. At Teawa, Mr. Bruce says, he terrified the shekh by foretelling that an eclipse of the moon was to take place at four after noon of the 17th of April, 1772; that accordingly, soon after that hour, he saw the eclipse was begun; and when the shadow was half over, told the shekh that in a little time the moon would be totally darkened. Now, by calculation, it is certain, that at Teawa this eclipse must have begun at 36 minutes past four, and the moon have been totally covered at 33 minutes past five; while the sun set there a few minutes past six, before which time the moon, then in opposition, could not have risen: so that as the moon rose totally eclipsed, Mr. Bruce could not see the shadow half over the disk, nor point it out to the shekh. To these objections, which appear unsurmountable, Mr. Bruce made no reply, though, in conversation, he said he would do it in the second edition of his book.

'These are mistakes which can hardly be accounted for by attributing them to the inaccuracy of his notes, or indeed to any cause which we are inclined to name; and perhaps he has fallen into a mistake of the same kind in his account of the enormous main-sail yard of the *canja*, in which he sailed up the river Nile. To every man who has but dipped into the science of mechanics, it is known that a beam of wood 200 feet in length must be of proportional thickness, or it would fall in pieces by its own weight. This thickness must be greatly increased, to enable it to bear the strain occasioned by a prodigious sail filled with wind; and those only who have been at the Nile, and have seen the canjas, can say, whether these vessels, or indeed any vessels which can be employed on that river, would not be overset by yards,

> ——— To equal which, the tallest pine
> Hewn on Norwegian hills, to be the mast
> Of some great admiral, were but a wand.' Vol. i. p. 128.

The lives of Campbell and of Carré present nothing peculiarly interesting. That however of the late empress of Russia is compacted with great skill, and displays a vast fund of general as well as of political science. The life of Condorcet is an able performance, though too much of a *peculiar* spirit of invective against the French revolution prevails in it. There is no disgrace in saying that the train of events, and the conduct of the revolutionists, have placed this subject in a very different light from that in which it once appeared; and to allow at any time that we have been mistaken, is only to admit that we are wiser to day than we were yesterday. We shall however enlarge on this subject at a future period. The life of Copernicus, and the progress of his discoveries, is an admirable one, from

Digitized by Google

Dr. Smith's Essays; that of Cullen is full and comprehensive, though in some of the dates we suspect it to be erroneous.

We have proceeded with the lives, not to break the subject into too many parts. With respect to the history and the geography, we can add little. Of the historical articles we may in general remark, what was before omitted, that they are very imperfectly executed; and in the references we experience perpetual disappointment. This is by no means remedied in the Supplement. Of geography, as a science, we see but little; but of the travels, especially those lately published, we find at times tolerably judicious and satisfactory abstracts.

On the subject of 'bleaching' the descriptions are perspicuous and accurate: but some of the later improvements, published since the appearance of the Supplement, are of course omitted. These however occur in many different places, and the omission may be easily supplied. The article of 'book-keeping' is judicious, and those of 'bread' and 'brewing' useful and instructive. We find our author frequently indebted to a very curious and useful work—professor Beckman's History of Inventions. To it, particularly in this part, the editors are obliged for many valuable observations on butter, chimneys, candles, &c. It is with great pleasure that we observe the specification of a patent for sweeping chimneys, which we hope will succeed, though we fear, from appearances, that it will be found too complicated. The articles of 'carpentry' and 'centre' are clear, recondite, and valuable, in a very high degree: they show, in every part, the hand of a master, and combine the most judicious practical observations with a correct theory. The article of 'chemistry' is extensive and valuable, and approaches as nearly to a complete abstract as the period of its compilation would admit.

We read with satisfaction the account of the 'antecedental calculus,' by Dr. Glenie, which appears to be a geometrical form of the differential calculus, or of fluxions. We own ourselves partial to the higher geometry of the ancients: but we fear the antecedental calculus will not answer the fond expectations of its inventor.

In the article of 'cherubim' the editor has inserted the explanations of Mr. Parkhurst, one of the soundest of the Hutchinsonians, with some judicious observations in opposition to his system. This article may be read with great satisfaction by the inquirers into the ancient Judaical rites, but will not admit of an abstract, could we otherwise have inserted it. Under the head of China, we have some valuable remarks on that singular country, and a judicious comparison or contrast of the different, and sometimes opposite, opinions of sir William Jones and sir G. Staunton, respecting the origin and the chronology of the Chinese. Some of the editor's remarks we shall transcribe.

Digitized by Google

'This is a very positive decision against the opinion of a man whose talents and knowledge of oriental learning were such as to give to his opinions on such subjects the greatest weight. If the statements and reasonings of sir George Staunton be accurate, the Chinese empire must have subsisted at least 3000 years before the Christian era; for he says expressly, that *many ages* must have elapsed before the commencement of that cycle, which, according to him, commenced 2277 years before the birth of Christ. But surely Confucius was as well acquainted with the ancient annals of his own country, and the credibility which is due to them, as any man of the present age, whether Chinese or European; and we have seen, that he considered none of them as authentic which relate events previous to the eleventh century before our era. Even this is by much too early a period at which to rely upon them with implicit confidence, if it be true, as sir George informs us, that the transactions of the empire have been regularly recorded only from about *three* centuries before the birth of Christ. With respect to the cycle, there is every probability that it was derived from India, where we know that astronomy has been cultivated as a science from time immemorial, and where, we have shown in another place, that the commencement of the cycle was actually antedated. (See Philosophy, No. 9. Encyl.) We have therefore no hesitation in preferring sir William Jones's opinion of the origin of the Chinese empire to sir George Staunton's; not merely because we believe the former of these gentlemen to have been more conversant than the latter with Chinese literature, but because we think his reasoning more consistent with itself, and his conclusion more consonant to that outline of chronology, which, as he observes, has been so correctly traced for the last 2000 years, that we must be hardy sceptics to call it in question.' Vol. i. p. 418.

'To sir William Jones's derivation of the Chinese from the Hindoos, the state of their written language may occur as an objection; for since it is certain that alphabetical characters were in use among the Hindoos before the period at which he places the emigration of the *Chinas*, how, it may be asked, came these people to drop the mode of writing practised by their ancestors, and to adopt another so very inconvenient as that which the Chinese have used from the foundation of their empire? The force of this objection, however, will vanish, when it is remembered that the Chinas were of the military cast; that they had gradually abandoned the ordinances of the Veda, and were in consequence degraded; and that they rambled from their native country in small bodies. We do not know that the military cast among the Hindoos was ever much devoted to letters; there is the greatest reason to believe that a degraded cast would neglect them; and it is certain that small bodies of men, wandering in deserts, would have their time and their attention completely occupied in providing for the day that was passing over them. That the Chinas should have forgotten the alphabetical characters of the Hindoos is therefore so far from being an objection to sir William Jones's account of their descent from that people, that it is the natural consequence of the manner in which he says they rambled

Digitized by Google

from Hindostan to the northern provinces of what now constitutes the Chinese empire.' Vol. i. p. 419.

The additions to the article 'church' relate to the Greek church; and a very satisfactory account of its rites and ceremonies is inserted. On the cultivation of 'coffee' we have some good accounts from different works published since the æra of the Encyclopædia; and even of the humble trade of a 'cooper' we have information which few would expect, and which to many will be new. The remarks on 'accidental colours' are valuable; but, on the subject of 'contagion,' the editor seems to trust too implicitly to Dr. C. Smyth's mode of fumigation. We remember remarking, that Dr. Duncan did not give sufficient attention to the opposite methods. The author observes that we know little of contagion. It is indeed true: but we know pretty well how, in the greater number of instances, to avoid it.

We have already extended our article too far; and it may frighten our readers to reflect that we have only finished the letter C. We trust, however, that we have laid the foundation for more quick dispatch in future, and hope that our farther remarks will not proceed beyond another article. We may, like the compilers of the Encyclopædia, miscalculate; but we are certain that we shall not err in so great a degree.

(*To be continued.*)

ART. IV.—*The Natural History of Volcanoes: including Submarine Volcanoes, and other analogous Phænomena. By the Abbé Ordinaire, formerly Canon of St. Amable at Riom in Auvergne. Translated from the original French Manuscript, by R. C. Dallas, Esq.* 8vo. 8s. *Boards.* Cadell *and* Davies. 1801.

THE fate of volcanoes, as philosophical agents, has been singular. For ages they astonished and terrified, and were considered as the most dreadful and destructive powers: in turn they became in our systems the great means of reproduction, the sources of fertility, the causes which divided the waters from the waters, and made the dry land appear. In the hands of the geologist they were agents peculiarly convenient and manageable; for he could place them in any region, and produce from them any change. Sound observation has however corrected the error in each extreme. Volcanoes are isolated mountains, not comparatively numerous, nor extensive in their advantages or their devastations. Many of their fancied vestiges we have discovered to be of a different origin; and their intense fires have been found of less temperature than even the most modest philosopher formerly ventured to suspect. At a period,

Digitized by Google

therefore, when philosophy has calmed the ardor with which we surveyed these stupendous phænomena—when we no longer regard them with stupid admiration, or abject terror—their 'Natural History' may be read with advantage; and facts may triumph over theory, or the structures of a fertile imagination. The human mind, however, does not soon step down from its ardent flights; and the period is yet at some distance when fancy will not add to the number and increase the power of these burning projections. The abbé Ordinaire's researches have been extensive, and his work is in general a valuable one: yet he is deficient in some points that more modern inquiries might have supplied; and we are surprised that the scientific investigations of Kirwan, and the later philosophical observations of Spallanzani, escaped him. On the whole, indeed, this work is in some measure flimsy and superficial; but it contains some facts of importance, and a collection of numerous observations not before brought together in so regular and pleasing a form.

The abbé describes volcanic mountains, and the inflammable substances which may feed their fires. He supposes that the existence of many apertures shows that the mountain will soon cease to be volcanic: but for this he offers no very satisfactory reason. He speaks of subterraneous fires where there are no explosions; but no where distinguishes with accuracy the causes of the explosion. His enumeration of those internal fires not attended by explosions is very full: that from M. Pallas we should have transcribed, had not the work been before us, both in the French and English versions. The abbé seems to support the theory of central fires, and to suppose that commotions in the earth may arise from these; so that in many places a volcano which might serve as a spiraculum would be beneficial. The remedy is however a very dangerous one; and we believe it may be greatly doubted, whether the causes are so nearly the same as the author, with others, has supposed; and the existence of central fires to any extent is very improbable.

The formation of mountains, M. Ordinaire contends with great justice, is not owing to volcanoes; for even the most singular volcanoes known at present were mountains before they exploded. In this disquisition he would have found an able assistant in Spallanzani. With equal reason, the opinion that all volcanoes are formed at the bottom of the ocean, and the mountains raised by their power, is rejected by our author. Why, however, volcanoes should be found only in the highest mountains, it is not easy to explain. The following reasons require the support of facts; yet they are as plausible as most others.

'Mountains, like all the other productions of nature, have a regular conformity of parts: the dimensions of their mass are in due

Digitized by Google

proportion: I mean that we may always estimate the width of the sides, and the depth of the base, by the height to which the head of a mountain rises on the globe. The exceptions to this rule, for there are some, are very few in number.

'We may add, that, of course, all the internal properties of which a concurrence is necessary to the forming of a volcano, such as fissures, caverns, a variety and abundance of inflammable matter, and a quantity of air and water, all in that case preserve similar proportions.

'According to these plain observations, we shall not find in a mountain of an inferior order either bulk sufficient to contain and put in action what is necessary to produce a volcano of the first kind, which I have just mentioned; or depth enough for its base to reach, and still less for its sides to attract, the interior fires, commonly called central, and give existence to a volcano of the second kind.

'But we can conceive without difficulty that the summit of a very high mountain, which in its descent takes an extension always increasing, probably down to its extreme internal base, may become a volcano either way. Etna extends itself nearly beneath the whole island of Sicily: what a prodigious lateral expansion, what dimensions at its base must it have when it reaches its lowest internal foundation! As to its depth, we must suppose it very great; but where shall we presume that it stops?

'If we consider the peak of Teneriffe, only from its summit to the level of the Atlantic ocean, how is it expanded even in that descent! Yet that is but its apparent base on the surface of the globe. Could we follow it to its interior foundation, how should we be astonished at its extent and depth!

'It is easy to conceive that nature may either convert such prodigious masses into formidable arsenals, or employ them as fire-pumps in throwing out the subterranean fires, in order to relieve the bowels of the earth, and prevent a confusion over the whole surface of it.

'I admit that all volcanoes are not so high as Etna, or the peak of Teneriffe; but we may consider these two as holding nearly the middle point on the scale of volcanic mountains. Many volcanoes are of their height; they are about a third lower than the highest, and certainly very few are a third lower than they are.' P. 68.

Our author supposes that the mountains in the moon are higher than those on the earth, in a greater proportion than has been conceived; because the estimation of the latter commences from the level of the sea; while those of the moon have their measure commenced from their immediate bases: and he thinks that the volcanoes of the moon are in like manner considerable. He is somewhat at a loss to explain why submarine volcanoes should have no apparent elevation; but we know little of these, except when connected with burning mountains on an adjacent island, and cannot easily in any case measure their elevation. The sea is undoubtedly much deeper than has been supposed; for M. de la Place has shown that we must admit a hitherto unsuspected

Digitized by Google

depth, to be able to account for the phænomena of the tides from attraction.

The abbé next enumerates the many islands rendered uninhabitable by their volcanoes, and particularly notices the state of Iceland. The heat of simply hot water springs is, he thinks, owing to subterraneous fires, as well as the heat of all others which contain neither iron nor sulphur. It is singular that he should have overlooked the great heat of the Gieser fountain, which must be more than that of boiling water. This great degree it is compelled to bear from the compression, as it retains that heat after having been raised so high in the air. Kamtschatka is in the same latitude with Iceland, but in opposite longitudes, and equally subject to volcanic fires. Our author considers this as merely accidental; since the fires of volcanoes are, he thinks, in the external 'coats' of the earth. The abbé is of opinion that volcanoes render the neighbouring districts fruitful and healthy. This however has never been proved: they are not unusually sickly or infertile during the remission of the volcanic convulsions, nor are they peculiarly fruitful and healthy after them.

Our author treats next of the cause of these commotions; and, though he speaks much of oils, bitumens, fermentations, &c. he rests the chief action on its true foundation—the powerful expansion of water when, by heat, it becomes steam. Here too Spallanzani, and even sir William Hamilton, would have assisted him. Various circumstances of an eruption are noticed in the following chapters. A description of such a phænomenon we shall select.

'Let the reader figure to himself Vesuvius near four thousand feet high, Etna which is more than twelve thousand, Pichinca which is fifteen thousand, Cotopaxis or Antisana, which are eighteen thousand; or, in fine, the insular volcano we have already mentioned, which was thought to exceed Chinboraço, and which, were it only equal to it, would still be nineteen thousand three hundred and ninety-two feet in height: let him imagine a column of fire of three or four miles in circumference, and sometimes more, whose height is more than double that of the mountain, rising from it with a thundering noise greater than that of all the cannon in the world discharged together. It seems as if it would set the sky on fire: lightnings flash from it. The dazzling brightness of its fire could not be endured by the eye, did not immense spiral clouds of smoke moderate its fierceness at intervals. These spread through the atmosphere, which they thicken: the whole horizon is covered with darkness; and at length nothing is to be seen but the burning summit of the mountain and the wonderful column of fire.

'Its height, bulk, and explosion, result from the confinement in which the air had been kept within the volcano. Rarefied to the highest degree, forced on by the increasing heat of the immense pit, and pressed more and more by the prodigious fermentation of the

Digitized by Google

lava, the inflamed air, reduced to the size of the crater, at length escapes, spinning round and round. Breaking the top of the shaft, it bears it along in a thousand pieces, with soot, ashes, and pumice, with which the sides of the abyss within were loaded. In this horrible whirlwind it is even common to see huge pieces of calcined rock, torn from the bosom of the mountain, carried into the air.

'The display of this phænomenon, in its extent and duration, depends upon the degree of force in the circumstances we have just mentioned. When the parts first raised lose this force, and, being left to their own weight, would naturally sink, those that come next, being still themselves supported, repel and throw them off. At that juncture an overspreading of the fire takes place at the top of the column, which adds to its beauty. I think it must have been from this view of it that the younger Pliny drew his comparison between the production of that eruption of Vesuvius, by which his uncle was killed, and of which he was himself an eye-witness, and the cypress tree.

'In a short time the whole of the column turns into a horrible shower of red hot rocks, flints, and ashes. Monstrous burning masses are seen bounding and rolling down the side of the mountain. Woe be to those places which lie in the direction of the wind prevailing at the time of this tremendous shower! Pompeii, Herculaneum, and Stabiæ, three towns to the south-west of Vesuvius, disappeared about seventeen centuries ago by a similar occurrence: and it was only in this century (the eighteenth) that they were discovered. A column, such as that we have been describing, broke over them, and the land about them: they were buried more than fifty feet under a mass of ashes and calcined flints, which was farther covered by a bed of lava several feet deep. If the wind be violent the ashes are carried to an incredible distance.' P. 125.

The ashes and other substances ejected by volcanic fires are various. The former were not however the cause of the dry fog in 1783, which seems to have been a phænomenon connected with electricity, though in what way is yet unknown. The other matters thrown out by volcanoes are sufficiently known; but the author has not detailed them scientifically. The flow of the lava is poetically described; yet the reader will observe that this wall of solid fire does not inflame a stick stuck into it, nor scorch the hand which holds the frying-pan—an experiment often tried over it.

'In this view it is a real river of fire at its source. The red hot lava issues in immense bubbles. It does not however become a rapid current even on the declivity of the mountain, but rolls heavily, being of a consistency, as we have already observed, very compact and adhesive. As it descends, the stream widens: it burns up every thing consumable by fire in its way. Its waves seem to be inexhaustible; they reach the plain in millions upon millions, often presenting to view a breadth of a mile and a half, and oft-times more. Here the following waves with difficulty press and impel those before: they rise one above the other in piles. At a certain distance from

Digitized by Google

the crater, when the air has made a sensible impression on the lava, it flows in a body from twelve to fifteen feet high, over which the stream is constantly collecting anew. It is a wall of solid fire; for to windward one may approach near enough to touch the matter with a pole, and try its resistance; although to leeward it is not to be borne within thirty paces without danger of suffocation. One might suppose that the top of these accumulated and moving bodies would concrete and become fixed, but it is not so: the dreadful heat they contain keeps them in a state sufficiently liquid to occasion the gradual rolling off of the mass; for it is in that manner that a stream of lava continues to run, and form a prolongation of this amazing wall. Five weeks after the eruption of 1794 the centre of the thickest part of the lava was red-hot. The progression of the matter thus continues as long as it is supplied from the crater, which does not cease disgorging until, after an emission more or less copious, the effervescence in the remainder of the matter contained in the gulf begins to subside. Then it still appears for some time bubbling at the rim of the crater, and afterwards contracts and sinks insensibly, till at last the mountain is restored to its usual calm.' P. 139.

The quantity of lava disgorged is immense; but the author does not recollect that it is very often porous, and that its specific gravity is inconsiderable. Among the matters ejected is sometimes water, when apparently this fluid is in greater proportion than the heat can convert into steam. It is an idle question to contest whether it proceed from the sea or reservoirs of fresh water. Each may occasionally supply the shower; and it is equally futile to dispute whether the matter discharged come from the middle or below the base of the mountain; for the question can never be decided.

The causes of the extinction of volcanoes are examined; but on these we need not enlarge, as many of them are imaginary. The extinction of the volcanoes in the Grecian islands in the Archipelago is attributed to the Euxine bursting through the Bosporus of Thrace — a circumstance that cannot admit of proof, and on which the negative would be as probable as the affirmative. Some observations on the Giant's Causeway are subjoined; and the author discusses the question of these columns being volcanic somewhat superficially:—he leaves it undecided.

Several of the following chapters contain a catalogue of the different volcanoes hitherto known in different countries. It is, so far as our recollection reaches, complete; and, in some disputed mountains, the author's decisions seem to be judicious. Of these there are ninety-nine on the continents, and ninety in the islands. Seventy-eight of the former are in America. Of the continental volcanoes, a large proportion is near the sea. The connexion we can only explain from this circumstance — that subterraneous fires are not uncommon, but that a coincidence of water is necessary to produce the explosion. Let it

Digitized by Google

however be recollected, that of the interior of Africa, and many parts of South America, we know little. Were these regions better explored, the disproportion might not be so great.

Of the mud volcanoes the account is curious. We shall select the description of one in the island of Taman, in the mouth of the river Cuban, in the Taurida. Another is in Sicily; and, during an eruption which ensued from it, the local temperature of the earth was lower than that of the surrounding air.

'This last eruption took place in February 1794. It was the greatest and most copious ever known. It happened at the top of a hill situated at the north point of Taman, near the bay of the same name. The appearance of the place seems to indicate that there had been a similar eruption at a period far back. The ground not covered over by the last is of the same nature as the more recent sediments; it is the same soil, with the difference only which vegetation and the atmospheric influence must necessarily produce.

'The place where the new gulf opened was a pool where the snow and rain-water usually remained for a long time. The explosion took place with a noise like that of thunder, and with the appearance of a mass of fire, in the form of a sheaf, which lasted only about half an hour, accompanied with a thick smoke. The ebullition which threw up a part of the liquid mud lasted till the next day: after which the mud continued running over slowly, and formed six streams, which made their way from the top of the hill to the plain. The body of mud collected by these streams is from three to five archines, that is, from six to ten feet deep, and may be reckoned more than a hundred thousand cubic fathoms—an effusion which approaches the marvellous! In July, which was the time Mr. Pallas visited the place, the surface of those beds of mud was dry, extremely uneven, and cracked like clayey ground. The gulf that had vomited them was stopped up with the mud which was likewise dry. It was not dangerous to walk over it, but it was frightful, as the horrid bubbling, which was then still heard in the interior of the hill, showed that its bowels were not so tranquil as its surface.

'The mud thus discharged is always a soft clay, of a bluish ash-colour, every where of the same nature, mixed with brilliant sparks of mica, with a small quantity of marly, calcareous, and sandy fragments of schist, which seem torn from the beds directly over the reservoir whence the explosion proceeds. Some crystals and sparkling laminæ of pyrites, found on these fragments, prove that the heat of the reservoir was not sufficiently powerful to affect the beds which contained those pyrites; nor was the mud discharged from the gulf more than lukewarm. The sheaf of fire was probably nothing more than the effect of the phlogistic air, which might have caused the explosion.' P. 257.

It must be remarked, that the whole of this country is gained from the sea; and the explosion seems evidently to arise from the expanding vapours, struggling for vent, without the assis-

Digitized by Google

tance of heat. M. Pallas thought it proceeded from the water reaching an old coal-mine which still remained on fire. Some other similar explosions are recorded. The burning springs are sufficiently known; but our author is not aware of the principle on which the inflammation depends, which is more commonly inflammable air than volatile bitumen: the difference of their nature is however inconsiderable.

When a volcano is extinguished, the fire, it is said, may be expected again to rage if the country be subject to earthquakes; and on this principle—though, as we have said, a doubtful one—our author promises security, or threatens danger.

Maritime and submarine volcanoes are considered at some length; and several curious facts are recorded on these subjects. We can add nothing to the little that we have said on the latter, for little is known. If, however, the submarine volcanoes resemble those on the shores, their eruptions must be of very short duration, and their discharges chiefly aqueous. This our author allows: but he differs from us in supposing the expanded air will throw off the water: we think the air, as it is called, to be produced by the access of the water, and that the steam and water will be ejected together. The subject is however obscure; and the probability may rather be, that these submarine volcanoes are expansions of air independent of heat. We believe many instances are recorded of islands being generated by volcanic fires. One has been formed in the neighbourhood of Iceland within a few years; and another we have lately mentioned, which was raised in the Indian seas, almost under the immediate inspection of two missionaries. The famous Atlantic territory was submerged, as our author thinks, by a volcanic explosion. It was in his opinion situated on the west of Spain, and may have been a part of the American continent.

We have been fuller in our account of this work than we intended. It is indeed a pleasing one, without any essential error. It contains much general information, but is too slight and superficial for the experienced naturalist. As the original is not before us, we cannot speak of the accuracy of the translation. It is, however, free and perspicuous, and appears to be faithful.

ART. V.—*The Poetical Works of John Milton, &c. By the Rev. Henry John Todd, M. A. (Continued from p. 254 of the present Volume.)*

THE fourth volume contains Paradise Regained and Samson Agonistes. The remarks which Mr. Dunster had subjoined in his edition of Paradise Regained to the end of each book, Mr. Todd

Digitized by Google

has connected, and prefixed as a preliminary discourse. To these he himself has added remarks on the origin of the poem.

'On this subject the Muses had not been before silent. In our own language, Giles Fletcher had published Christ's Victorie and Triumph, in 1611—an elegant and impressive poem in four parts, of which the second, entitled Christ's Triumph on Earth, describes the Temptation. To this poem, however, the Paradise Regained owes little obligation. Perhaps the Italian Muse might afford a hint. In the following sacred poem, consisting of ten books, "La Humanita del Figlivolo di Dio. In ottaua rima, per Theofilo Folengo, Mantoano. Venegia, 1533,' 4°. the fourth book treats largely of the temptation; from which I will cite the descriptive scene, after the devil has tempted our Lord, and has been rebuked with the reply "Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, &c."

"Al suon di tanta, et tal sententia un grido
Lascia co 'l puzzo Satanoso, et sgombra,
Mà d'Angeletti biondi un stolo fido
Ecco à la mensa l' inuitar sott' ombra,
Quiui la fame sù l' herboso lido,
Che sol l'humanità del figlio ingombra,
Distrutta fù dapo 'l digiun sofferto,
Per suo non già, ma ben per nostro merto."

'There had been published also at Venice, in 1518, "La Vita et Passione di Christo, &c. composta per Antonio Cornozano. In terza rima." The subject of the sixth chapter of the first book is the Temptation: to which is prefixed a wooden cut, wherein Satan is represented as an old man with a long beard, offering bread to our Lord. The tempter indeed is an *aged man*, like the tempter of Milton, in Vischer's cuts to the Bible, as noticed by Mr. Thyer; and in Salvator Rosa's fine painting of the Temptation, as noticed by Mr. Dunster. See the Life of Milton in the first volume. The devil is also represented in a monastic habit by Luca Giordano, in a picture of the Temptation, which made a part of the Dusseldorp collection. But poetry likewise seems to have painted, not seldom, the *gray dissimulation* of the tempter in the same colours. Milton draws him in the habit of an aged Franciscan in his admirable verses *In Quint. Novembris*. There is a poem, entitled "Monachos mentiti Dæmones," in Wierus *De Præstigiis Dæmonum*, Basil. 1583, p. 84, in which the assumed disguise is somewhat similar:

"Ecce per obscuræ tenebrosa crepuscula noctis
Obtulit ignoti se noua forma viri.
Atro tectus erat monachum simulante cucullo,
Vtque solent, raso vertice tonsus erat."

'In Ross's description of the Temptation, *Christiados*, lib. viii. ed. 1638, p. 178, he is also thus painted, by the adaptation of Virgilian phrases:

"His actis, deserta petit spelæa ferarum:
Hic inter vastas rupes, atque horrida lustra,

Digitized by Google

Vsque quater denis jejunia longa diebus
Pertulit, et totidem sine victu noctibus ullo:
Hic ad radices scopuli defessus Iësus
Consedit, stygiis expectans sedibus *hostem.*——
——— interea [Satan] *sese transformat in ora*
Terribili squalore senis, cui plurima mento
Canities inculta jacet, &c.
Sordidus ex humero nodo dependet amictus,
Et frontem obscenam rugis arat."

'There is an Italian poem, which I have not seen, entitled *Il Diuino di Christo nel Deserto* by Giovanni Nizzoli, dated in 1611. And I observe also among the works of P. Antonio Glielmo (who died in 1644), enumerated by Crasso in his "Elogii d' huomini letterati," *Il Calvario Laureato, Poëma;* a kindred subject perhaps with that of Paradise Regained.' Vol. iv. P. xvii.

We have omitted the concluding sentence: it is not the only instance in which we have thought Mr. Todd too liberal of praise. The editor of Milton should have acquired a severer taste. He who is working upon jewels can surely distinguish gems from paste.

The remarks upon the defects of the poem are just.

'Doubtless the Paradise Regained, like the mild and pleasing brightness of the lesser luminary, will ever obtain its comparative admiration. The fine sentiments which it breathes, the pure morality which it inculcates, and the striking imagery with which it is frequently embellished, must commend the poem, while taste and virtue are respected, to the grateful approbation of the world. The versification indeed wants the variety and animation which so eminently distinguish the numbers of Paradise Lost. And it cannot but be acknowledged that the plan is faulty: for, to attribute the redemption of mankind solely to Christ's triumph over the temptations in the wilderness is a notion not only contracted, but untrue. The gate of everlasting life was opened, through the death and resurrection of our Lord. Dr. Bentley's remark has not yet been controverted: see the note on Paradise Lost, b. x. 182. I do not, however, think that Paradise Regained is without "allusions to poets either ancient or modern," as is insinuated in a preceding remark: it exhibits, on the contrary, several elegant imitations, interwoven with Milton's original graces, both of the classical and the romantic muses.' Vol. iv. P. 335.

The preliminary observations on Samson Agonistes are from the Rambler, N°s 139 and 140, and from Mr. Cumberland's Observer, N° 111. To the list of poems upon the same character may be added a Spanish epic, the Sanson Nazareno of Antonio Henriquez Gomez, one of the worst poems in the language. This volume is concluded by the catalogue of plans of other subjects, intended for tragedies by Milton.

Digitized by Google

The fifth volume contains Lycidas, L'Allegro, Il Penseroso, Arcades, Comus, and the Sonnets. Mr. Todd has given a curious epitaph on Mr. King, the subject of the monody written by a Mr. Booth of Corpus Christi.

> " Heere lies the love of gentle hearts,
> The cabinet of all the artes.
> Heere lies Gramar, out of which
> Mute fishes learn their parts of speech.
> Heere lies Rhetorick all undone,
> Which makes the seas more fluent runne.
> And heere Philosophy was drown'd,
> Which makes the seas farre more profound, &c."

' It concludes with this quaint couplet :

> " Thus whilst poore breathing mortalls weepe,
> The wit, and mirth, lies in the deepe." Vol. v. p. 6.

To these minor poems little could be added after the learned and copious annotations of Warton. Mr. Todd's labours, however, have not been vain. He gives the following beautiful extracts from a masque by Marston, of which the manuscript is in the possession of the duke of Bridgewater.

SONG by CYNTHIA.

> " From ladies y^t are rudely coy,
> Barring their loues from modest joy;
> From ignorant silence, and proud lookes;
> From those that aunswer out of bookes;
> From those who hate our chast delight;
> I blesse the fortune of each starry knight.
> From gallants who still court with oathes;
> From those whose only grace is cloathes;
> From bumbast stockings, vile legg-makers;
> From beardes, and greate tobecca-takers;
> I blesse the fortune of each starry dame.
> Singe, that my charme may be more stronge;
> The goddes are bounde by verse and songe.

" *The Songe.*

> " Audatious nighte makes bold the lippe;
> Now all court chaster pleasure,
> Whilst to Apollo's harpe you trippe,
> And tread the gracing measure.
> Now meete, now breake, then fayne a warlike salley;
> So Cynthea sports, and so the godes may dalley, &c.

" During this songe the masquers presented theire sheelds, and tooke forth their ladyes to daunce.

" After they hadd daunced many measures, galliards, corantos, and lavaltos, the night being much spent; whilst the masquers

Digitized by Google

prepared themselues for theire departing measure, Cynthea spake thus:

" Now, pleasing, rest; for see the nighte
(Wherein pale Cynthea claimes her right)
Is allmost spent; the morning growes,
The rose and violett she strowes
Vppon the high cœlestiall floore,
'Gainst Phœbus rise from 's parramore:
The faieries, y^t my shades pursue
And bath theire feete in my colde dew,
Now leaue their ringletts and be quiett,
Least my brother's eye shoulde spy it.
Then now let every gratious starr
Auoide at sound of Phœbus' carr,
Into your proper place retyre
W^th bosomes full of beauties fier.
Hence must slide the queene of floodes,
For day beginnes to gilde the woodes.
Then whilst we singe, though you departe,
Ile sweare y^t heere you leaue yor harte.

" After this a shepherd sings 'a passionate ditty att my lady's departure:' he then presents the countess with a scarf, and adds,

" Farewell, farewell:
Joy, love, peace, health,
In you longe dwell;
W^th our farewell, farewell." Vol. v. p. 152.

Mr. Todd has already published Comus * separately. It is elaborately edited. The various lections are more numerous than those appended to any of the other poems. Our readers will be pleased to see the following beautiful lines, which Milton erased from the opening speech. They originally followed the fourth line.

Beyond the starry threshold of Jove's court
My mansion is, where those immortal shapes
Of bright aërial spirits live insphered
In regions mild of calm and serene air.

' Amidst th' Hesperian gardens, on whose banks
Bedew'd with nectar and celestiall songs,
Eternall roses grow, and hyacinth,
And fruits of golden rind, on whose faire tree
The scalie-harnest dragon ever keeps
His uninchanted eye; around the verge
And sacred limits of this blissful isle,
The jealous ocean, that old river, windes
His farre extended armes, till with steepe fall

* See our 24th vol. New Arr. p. 356.

Digitized by Google

Halfe his wast flood the wild Atlantique fills,
And halfe the slow unfadom'd Stygian poole.
But soft, I was not sent to court your wonder
With distant worlds, and strange removed climes.'

Vol. v. p. 418.

The preliminary observations on the sonnets trace the history of the English sonnet from Surrey to Milton. By quoting miss Seward, it should appear that Mr. Todd agrees with her in preferring the Italian structure. It should be remembered that such a preference is contradicted as well by experience as theory. The sonnet has been revived by Charlotte Smith: her sonnets are assuredly the most popular in the language, and deservedly so; but they are almost all irregular. A Mr. White, quoted by the editor, says, 'it cannot be demonstrated that the regular sonnet suits not the nature or genius of our language.' We would weigh against this the assertion that 'it cannot be denied,' if experience did not show us that there are people foolish enough and obstinate enough to deny any thing. Mr. Todd observes that some of Constable's sonnets are written in lines of six feet. This is not uncommon; frequent examples may be found in those of sir Philip Sidney.

The sixth and last volume contains the odes, miscellanies, translations, and Latin poems. The epitaph upon Shakspeare appears to have been suggested by the following upon sir Thomas Stanley, written, according to sir William Dugdale, by Shakspeare himself:

"Aske who lies here, but do not weepe;
He is not dead, he doth but sleepe:
This stony register is for his bones,
His fame is more perpetuall than these stones;
And his own goodnesse, with himself being gone,
Shall live when earthly monument is none.
Not monumentall stone preserves our fame,
Nor skye-aspiring piramids our name;
The memory of him for whom this stands
Shall out-live marble and defacers' hands:
When all to time's consumption shall be given,
Stanley, for whom this stands, shall stand in heaven."

Vol. vi. p. 85.

This latter strikingly resembles the lines of Ben Jonson engraved upon Drayton's monument:

'And when thy ruines shall disclaim
To be the treasurer of his name,
His name, that cannot die, shall be
An everlasting monument to thee.'

Digitized by Google

The erudite annotations of Dr. Burney are prefixed to the Greek verses: the comments upon the Latin poems are chiefly by Warton, who every where, in censuring Milton's opinions, has been too ostentatious of his own.—Mr. Todd, in his concluding note, defends the prose of Milton.

'—There are various passages,' he says, 'in the English prose, besides the Tractate on Education and the Areopagitica, which seem entitled to the praise of the most impressive eloquence. Nor in his Latin performances are there wanting examples of pure as well as animated style. The accurate scholar seldom ceases to be visible either in the politician, in the controversialist, or in the secretary. Perhaps his English style is in general too learned. Of his History of England Warburton has said, that "it is written with great simplicity, contrary to his custom in his prose works; and is the better for it. But he sometimes rises to a surprising grandeur in the sentiment and expression, as at the conclusion of the second book, *Henceforth we are to steer*, &c. I never saw any thing equal to this but the conclusion of sir Walter Raleigh's History of the World." That Milton may be found virulent in these civil and religious speculations will not perhaps be denied: his pen, dipped as it sometimes is in the gall of puritanism, hurries him into the violence of rage; and he then condemns without mercy, as he judges without candour. But, at other times, his pages breathe the sweetest language of sensibility; the abusive spirit, which the turbulence of the times excited, sinks into calmness; and, without subscribing to his political sentiments, we are led to admire the uncommon felicity of his expression.' Vol. vi. p. 396.

This is but cold approbation. As a prose-writer, Milton is only equalled by Jeremy Taylor among his contemporaries, and Burke among after-writers.

An Appendix concludes the work. In this, Lauder's interpolations are noticed, and Robert Baron's Imitations of Milton's early Poems. The villany of the modern Erostratus needs not be mentioned here. Baron's plagiarisms are less generally known; they are wonderfully impudent;—witness what follows.

" Ring out, yee cristall spheares,
Once blesse our listning eares!
Let your sweet silver chime,
Keeping harmonious time,
Carroll forth your loud layes
In the winged wanton's praise.
Mab, thou majestick queene
Of fairies, be thou seene
To keepe this holiday,
Whilst we dance and play;
And frisk it as we goe
On the light fantastick toe.
The satyres and the fawnes
Shall nimbly crosse the lawnes;

Digitized by Google

Ore tawny sands and shelves
Trip it, yee dapper elves!
Dance by the fountaine brim,
Nymphes, deckt with daisies trim."

" Sol has quencht his glowing beame
In the coole Atlanticke streame:
Now there shines no tell-tale sun
Hymen's rites are to be done:
Now Love's revells 'gin to keepe,
What have you to do with sleepe?
You have sweeter sweets to prove,
Lovely Venus wakes, and Love,
Goddesse of nocturnall sport,
Alwaies keep thy jocond court, &c."

——— " Euphrosyne,
Right goddesse of free mirth, come lead with thee
The frolick mountaine nymph, faire Liberty,
Attended on by youthful Iollity."

" Hence, hence, fond Mirth; hence vain deluding joyes,
Glee and Alacritie, you be but toyes:
Goe, gilded elves, love's idle traine possesse
With fickle fancies, thick and numberlesse:
Sorrow the subject of my song shall be,
My harpe shall chant my heart's anxietie." Vol. vi. p. 402.

The work is properly finished with a glossarial index of words, phrases, customs, and persons, explained and mentioned in the notes.

In tracing the language and expressions of Milton to earlier writers, we think the various commentators have exhibited more learning than judgement. The following examples, taken from the volume before us, will explain and justify the charge.

' ——— *a darksome house of mortal clay.*] So, in The Scourge of Villanie, 1598. b. iii. sat. viii. of the soul leaving the body:

" Leauing his *smoakie house of mortall clay.*"

' ——— *by the* sun's team *untrod,*] Perhaps from Shakspeare's " heavenly-harness'd *team,*" Hen. IV. act ii. sc. iv. which Randolph imitates, Poems, 2d edit. 1640, p. 74.

——— " the *sunne,*
Where he *unharness'd,* and where's *teame* begunne."

' Sylvester has the *sun's* " tyer-less *teem,*" Du Bart. 1621, p. 84. Again, " The *sun* turns back his *teem,*" p. 226. In Kyd's Cornelia, 1595, we find Night's " slow-pac'd *team*;" and, in Fletcher's Faithful Shepherdess, Night's " lazy *team.*" Vol. vi. p. 5.

Digitized by Google

'——— *helmed*] So, in Par. Lost, b. vi. 840.

——— "o'er helms and *helmed* heads he rode."

'Drayton has "helmed head." Polyolb. s. viii. vol. ii. p. 800. WARTON.

'Chaucer has *helmed*, Tr. and Cr. ii. 593.

"By Mars the god, that *helmed* is of stele." Vol. vi. P. 12.

'*And Peace shall lull him in her flowery lap*;] So in Harrington's Ariosto, c. xlv. 1.

"Who long were *lul'd* on high in Fortune's *lap*."

'And in William Smith's Chloris, 1596.

"Whom Fortune never dandled in her *lap*."

'And in Spenser's Teares of the Muses, Terpsich. st. i.

"Whoso hath in the *lap* of soft delight
Been long time *lul'd*."

'We have the "*flowery lap* of some irriguous valley," Par. Lost, b. iv. 254. WARTON.

'See also Mir. for Magistrates, 1610, p. 327.

"Whilst Fortune false doth *lull* them in her *lap*."

'And in Certaine Selected Odes of Horace by John Ashmore, 4to. 1621, p. 17.

"In Fortune's *lap*, who then, but I,
By Venus *lulld*-asleep did lie?" Vol. vi. P. 79.

Repeated instances of this kind occur in the work. But Milton, who had the mines of language at command, did not employ himself in raking up the rubbish of old metal. To Sylvester in particular he is supposed to be indebted. Doubtless he had profited by that writer's contortions and his wanton abuse of language, as the wise physician learns to cure from the quack who administers poison: but to suppose that for every peculiar word, for every double epithet, for every striking phrase, Milton is indebted to some predecessor—this surely is miserable trifling! As well might the fame of Raphaël be divided with his oil and colour dealer; as well might the flavour of the melon be attributed to the stable-refuse on which it was raised. We do not particularly apply this censure to Mr. Todd; it is more applicable to the rest of the firm. It might perhaps have been better if the imitations from various authors, instead of being noted as they occur, had been separately arranged: the reading of the poet would then have been more distinctly understood. Mr. Todd's edition, on the whole, is ably executed: it is a valuable and elaborate work, which must find its place in every gentleman's library.

Digitized by Google

ART. VI.—*The Beauties of England and Wales; or, Delineations, topographical, historical, and descriptive, of each County. Embellished with Engravings. By John Britton and Edward Wedlake Brayley. Vol. I.* 8vo. 13*s. Boards.* Vernor *and* Hood. 1801.

WE have already recommended to the public Mr. Britton's Beauties of Wiltshire; and the present work rivals the former in the merit of its engravings and the pleasing tenor of its style. The intention of our authors is to form a regular Britannia, or description of the chief objects in each county, alphabetically digested. The volume before us contains Bedfordshire, Berkshire, and Buckinghamshire.

'The subscribers to this work are respectfully informed, that the ardent desire of the editors to render the Introduction as complete as possible, and the time and extensive reading necessary to the full investigation and arrangement of the numerous and complex subjects it involves, have induced them to protract its publication till a more distant period. This delay, the expediency of which cannot be questioned even by those who consider the nature and extent of their design with but partial attention, will afford leisure for that review of British, Roman, and Saxon history, which the editors imagine will not only prove interesting from the variety of objects it includes, but will also elucidate the origin of many of the important national regulations, which have stamped a character on this island, given stability to its laws, and extension to its commerce.' P. i.

Besides a vignette of Donnington castle, and Leighton Beaudesert cross as a frontispiece, the volume contains the following engravings: 1. Ely cathedral; 2. Dunstable priory; 3. Windsor; 4. Windsor castle; 5. Buckingham; 6. Eton; 7. Stowe; 8. Downton castle; 9. Hampton court; 10. Church of St. Mary Ottery; 11. Badminton; 12. Chepstow.

We need not much enlarge on the descriptions, which are principally derived from Camden's Britannia and other authorities, and of course already familiar in a great degree to our readers, though here conveyed in a new and agreeable form. In Bedfordshire, the history of Woburn is one of the most interesting articles; and we shall extract the account of the pit which supplies that valuable substance called fuller's-earth, the exportation of which is rigorously prohibited. This we the rather select, as we observe that foreign mineralogists, in describing this substance, call it *terre de Hampshire*; while it is not found in that county, to the best of our information, but principally in the neighbourhood of Woburn in Bedfordshire, of Reading in Berkshire, and of Reygate in Surrey, at which last place have lately been discovered crystals of yellow barytes, like amber, interspersed in the fuller's-earth.

Digitized by Google

'The fuller-earth pits (or rather pit, for there is only one at present) in the vicinity of Woburn, are, according to the invariable assertions of preceding topographers, situated in Bedfordshire: but this is a mistake; the pits are certainly in Buckinghamshire, in the parish of Wavendon, or Wandon, as it is generally called. They are two miles north of Woburn, and about one furlong on the western side of the Northampton road, which, in this part, forms the boundary between the two counties for upwards of a mile. The more ancient pit, it is true, is in the county of Bedford, in the parish of Aspley, which adjoins to that of Wandon: but this has been disused for upwards of a century. It has large trees growing in it; and is become a secure and comfortable residence for the cunning fox, whose sagacity has taught him that he may live here unmolested and free from danger.

'As the pit so immediately borders on this county, and as the curious reader, judging from the practice of former writers, will undoubtedly refer to the neighbourhood of Woburn, when desirous of acquiring information on this subject, we trust that we shall not be charged with any impropriety of arrangement if the particulars we have been enabled to obtain concerning the invaluable substance under consideration are inserted in this place. The surface of the earth may be divided with artificial limits; but the interior strata, in this instance, is unquestionably continued in both counties.

'British cloth is chiefly indebted to the cleansing qualities of this celebrated earth, for its great superiority over that manufactured by other nations. In no other country is it found so free from foreign admixture; for this reason, as well as its importance in the woollen trade, several severe laws have been made, at different periods, since the reign of Charles the Second, to prevent its exportation. Nor are these acts of the British legislature without precedent. History informs us, that the fulling business was an object of Roman attention, and that laws were expressly made by that nation to regulate the employment.

'This earth is truly a marl, commonly of a greyish ash-coloured brown; yet it greatly varies, and is found of different shades, from the very pale, to the dusky, or almost black; but always with a tinge of the yellowish green. The pit at Wavendon consists of two tunnels; one with a ladder for the convenience of the labourers, the other to raise the earth up. The descent is very disagreeable, and the inside of the pit very damp. The wood-work on the top and sides of the excavated angles is continually wet, and almost covered with *boletus lacrymans* (dryrot boletus.) The strata are disposed in the following order.

'From the surface to the depth of six or seven feet are several layers of sand, all of a reddish colour, but of different tints. Beneath is a thin stratum of sand-stone, and under this the fuller's-earth. The upper stratum is about a foot thick; but being generally impure, or mixed with sand, it is thrown aside, and the rest is taken up for use. The earth is disposed in layers (commonly about eighteen inches between one horizontal fissure and another) continued to the depth of eight or ten feet. Between the centrical layers is a thin stratum of matter, of less than an inch, which in taste, colour, and

Digitized by Google

external appearance, bears a striking resemblance to *terra Japonica*. Beneath the whole is a bed of rough white free-stone, about two feet thick: this is seldom dug through; when it is, more strata are discovered. The depth of the pit varies, it being from twenty to thirty feet below the surface.

'Though fuller's-earth is of the most material service in cleansing cloth, and imbibing the tar, grease, tallow, &c. which, from the operation of many causes, is often mixed with the wool, yet the present price is scarcely sufficient to defray the expenses of raising it; being only ten shillings a ton, and the quantity sold not amounting to more than thirty tons annually. The labourers are occasionally employed, to the number of five, six, or seven, in proportion as the earth is wanted. The pit belongs to the duke of Bedford; and, as we understand, by a recent purchase. Its situation is nearly opposite to that in the parish of Aspley, which is also on the duke's estate. About twenty years since there was a pit in use on the estate of colonel Moore; but this has been levelled, and the field is now in pasturage. The earth lay about four feet from the surface.

'The few authors who have written on the topography of this county are unanimous in ascribing a petrifying quality to a small spring said to be in the parish just mentioned; and not only the water, but the surrounding earth also, is reported to partake of the same property. Camden informs us, that those who belonged to the monastery showed "a wooden ladder, which, after lying some time in the earth, was dug up all stone." The risible absurdity of this sentence can only be exceeded by the folly of Michael Drayton, poet-laureat to James the First, who inserted the following lines on this subject in his Polyolbion.

"The brook which on her bank doth boast that earth alone
Which, noted of this isle, converteth wood to stone,
That little Aspley's earth we anciently instile,
'Mongst sundry other things, a wonder of our isle."

'This wonder of the poet, like many more extraordinary circumstances, hath had its nine days of admiration payed by the gaping multitude. The story has now grown into general discredit; and we are informed, from the most unquestionable authority, that there is no such spring in the parish: yet we have heard of some bits of the petrified wood, said to have been obtained here, which appeared handsome when polished; and also, that a pair of buttons has been made of it. But we have said enough on a baseless subject, and, as the stream is wanting whose qualities could alone give the tale credibility, shall dismiss it with the common motto, *Ex nihilo, nihil fit.*' P. 39.

The catalogues of paintings are rather too long, and the biographical accounts, particularly those of foreigners, are extraneous to the nature of the work. When the author asserts, p. 59, that the forms of all ancient vases are supposed to 'have been taken from the calyx of the lotus, a celebrated water-plant well known in Upper Asia,' he shows the danger of advancing beyond a man's depth. There is no such country as Upper

Digitized by Google

Asia: if he mean Siberia, he errs *toto cœlo*; and, in the next place, the forms of the ancient vases are so infinitely diversified, that the idea in the eye of plain sense becomes a mere antiquarian dream. In p. 65, he is equally unfortunate, in asserting that the terms *honour* and *barony* were synonymous. The honour of Richmond contained, if we mistake not, more than a hundred baronies.

The following circumstance in the description of Biggleswade is, we believe, not generally known.

'On the 25th of February, 1792, a smart shock of an earthquake was felt here, about half past eight in the morning. It lasted several seconds, threw down some old houses, and much alarmed the inhabitants, though no lives were lost. The shock was felt northwards as far as Doncaster, whence it extended to the sea-coast of Lincolnshire and Yorkshire.' P. 75.

The ridiculous fable of the Thames and the Isis is justly opposed.

'The name of this river has occasioned many altercations; and though the general opinion has long been, that it does not receive the appellation of Thames till after its union with the Thame of Oxfordshire, yet this is evidently founded in error; for the former word is found in several charters granted to the abbey of Malmsbury, and likewise in some old deeds belonging to Cricklade, both of which places are in Wiltshire. But the most decisive proof is contained in a charter granted to the abbot Aldheim, where particular mention is made of certain lands upon the east part of the river, "Cujus vocabulum Temis juxta vadum qui appellatur Summerford;" i. e. whose name is Thames, near the ford called Summerford; and as this place is in Wiltshire, it is manifest that the river was named Temis, or Tems, in the uppermost part of its course; and long before its junction with the Thame. This evidence, which is inserted on the authority of Mr. Gough, was unknown to Camden, who imagines the term to be a compound, and has given considerable extracts in his Britannia from a fanciful poem, entitled the Marriage of the Thame and Isis, of which he is said to be the author.' P. 86.

This puerile fable is a disgrace to English topography, and only fit for pedants or school-boys.

In treating of the origin of the order of the garter, our author mentions the story of the countess of Salisbury as an idle tale, and gravely quotes Joshua Barnes and the Phœnicians. We wish Joshua Barnes and the Phœnicians were in his belly—to adopt the language of Falstaf,—and firmly believe in the countess of Salisbury and her garter. The author may look at the motto of Edward IV. for another instance of the intermixture of love and chivalry; but our wise antiquaries seem often inclined to leave human nature on the left hand. In p. 265 there is a pretty wooden print of that noted tree in Windsor forest called Herne's oak, executed by Mr. Anderson, a most ingenious artist. The

Digitized by Google

account of Frogmore, and the Windsor farms, we shall transcribe, as a novelty.

'The favourite residence of the queen has become celebrated through the elegant *fêtes* which have been occasionally given here by her majesty. It is situated about half a mile east of Windsor, and occupies part of a very fertile valley, which divides the little park from the forest, whence the many fine old oaks and elms which still decorate the gardens indicate it to have been separated. That it received its present appellation before Shakspeare's time is evident from some passages in his comedy of the Merry Wives of Windsor. This estate was formerly in the possession of sir Edward Walpole, and is now the private property of her majesty, by whom it was purchased of the honorable Mrs. Ann Egerton in 1792. Since that period it has not only been considerably enlarged, but most materially improved. An area of thirteen acres is laid out in a beautiful pleasure garden, diversified with a canal winding in different directions; in one part spreading its waters before the front of the house, and again retiring beneath the thick woods. In this sweetly sequestered spot every thing is serene and pleasant. The devious path, the umbrageous thicket, the dilapidated ruin, and secluded temple, all conspire to render it peculiarly interesting. Exclusive of the variety of indigenous and exotic trees and shrubs which are scattered through the grounds, the garden is ornamented with five buildings, respectively denominated the Gothic Temple, the Ruin, the Hermitage, the Temple of Solitude, and the Barn. The Ruin was erected from a design by Mr. Wyatt; and being seated on the water's edge, partly immersed in woods, and diversified with the creeping ivy and fractured wall, it constitutes a truly picturesque ornament, when seen from many points of view. The Hermitage is a small circular thatched building, situated in the south-west corner of the garden, and completely embowered with lofty trees. It was constructed from a drawing of the princess Elizabeth, whose taste and skill in this polite art are flattering encomiums on her genius and application. The surrounding scenery is judiciously contrived to assimilate with the character of the place—the view of every distant object being excluded by trees and underwood. The recent improvements and alterations made in the gardens are very considerable, and are highly creditable to the taste and judgement of the gentleman who directed the operations.

'The house, though not large, is a neat modern structure, which has been much improved and beautified by Mr. Wyatt. It is partly built with free-stone, and partly cased; and is decorated with a projecting colonnade towards the south, uniting the principal building with two uniform wings. The apartments are furnished in a plain but peculiarly neat manner. One of them is embellished with the original sketches by Mr. West, and paintings by miss Moser, that were copied to ornament the throne in the castle; and several others are decorated with paintings, and variety of drawings.

'The Great Park at Windsor reverted to his majesty on the death of the duke of Cumberland, in the year 1791, since which period it has undergone a variety of important alterations. The principal

Digitized by Google

entrance is skirted by a double row of majestic trees, "whose seeming boundless continuity fills the mind with an idea of something like infinitude; for the line is extended not only along the whole of a very spacious plain, but up the distant hill, over whose summit it appears to curve, so that nothing like termination is discernible." The eminence here mentioned commands a vast extent of country, of which Windsor town and castle, Eton college, Datchet, Harrow, Highgate, Hampstead, and Stanwell, constitute the leading features. Near this spot is Cumberland lodge, a spacious edifice, where the last duke of Cumberland, and his illustrious predecessor, to whom it was given in the year 1744, formerly resided.

'The park is embellished with some rich forest scenery, and possesses great diversity and inequality of surface; but the circumstances through which it more peculiarly demands attention are the agricultural experiments now making in its different quarters under the direction of his majesty, by whom many improvements in the state and general appearance of the grounds have already been effected. The valleys and low parts have been cleared, to give a bolder effect to the woody scenes on the eminences; and several judicious openings have been contrived to remove the disgusting tameness of parallel lines, and separate the plantations that appeared heavy and formal. When the park reverted to the king, it was found to contain about 3800 acres, abounding with moss, fern, rushes, and ant-hills, and rendered dangerous in many places by bogs and swamps. In this state its scanty produce hardly afforded sufficient nutriment for 3000 deer. Since that period "the wet parts have been rendered firm and sound by the Essex mode of underground draining; the rushes weakened and destroyed, by draining and rolling; the moss and small hillocks extirpated by harrowing; the large ant-hills cleared by the scarifier; the fern weakened by mowing; the irregular banks levelled; the pits filled up; the valleys opened; the hills ornamented with new plantations; the stiff lines of trees, the vestiges of hedge-rows, judiciously broken:" and the park, though now reduced to 2400 acres, "supports the same number of deer as before, in much better health and condition." The remaining 1400 acres have been disposed into two farms, respectively denominated from the nature of the mode of husbandry by which they were intended to be brought into culture.

'The Norfolk farm consists of about 1009 acres of light soil, bordering on the extensive waste called Bagshot-heath, hitherto considered as too barren for cultivation, though large tracts of similar quality have long since been rendered useful in the south-west part of Norfolk. Half this farm has been allotted to sheep-walks; the other is disposed in arable land, managed in a five-course shift of 100 acres in a class, and cropped in the following course: first, wheat or rye; second, vetches, rye, and potatoes; third, turnips; fourth, barley or oats; fifth, clover. The ploughing is chiefly performed with the Norfolk plough; and the ground, which in its former state was not worth renting at above five shillings an acre, now produces crops of more value than the original fee-simple of the land. This improvement in a great measure has been owing to the penning of the sheep on the fallows—from 600 to 800 Wiltshire

Digitized by Google

wethers being commonly kept as a folding stock. The irregularly-formed ground, which surrounds the beautiful lake called Virginia Water, has been disposed into a separate walk for Ryeland wethers, who are supposed to be best adapted to the coarseness of the herbage. The waste water of the lake gives motion to an overshot mill, which has been erected to grind corn for the labourers.

'In breaking up some of the land for this farm, it was found so coarse and tough, that it could not be cleared in the ordinary way without uncommon expense and labour. An experiment was therefore made, which, from the success attending it, seems worthy of insertion. "In the early part of the winter it was ploughed to a full depth with a swing plough, whose mould-board was so placed as to lay the turf in an inverted position. This was well trodden with cattle, and rolled, and the sheep occasionally drove over it. In the spring it was harrowed and cropped with oats, which were no sooner off than the surface was again harrowed and dragged, so as to get as much loose earth as possible without bringing up the turf. Early in autumn it was sown with winter vetches, and the beginning of June ploughed crossways, when the turf turned up quite rotten, and the land was got into a clean state by the first week in July. Both turnips and wheat were afterwards sown, and succeeded admirably."

'The Flemish farm contains about 400 acres, situated at the north extremity of the park, and originally intended to have been managed in exact accordance with the system employed in Flanders. This is a four-course shift, yielding an alternate crop for man and beast. The soil, however, being found strong and cohesive, the plan was in part relinquished, for the following more congenial mode: first year, wheat; second, cabbage or clover; third, oats; fourth, beans. The arable land on this farm is 160 acres.

'The comparative advantages of the labour of horses and oxen have long divided the opinions of experimental agriculturalists. The practice of his majesty has induced him to decide in favour of oxen, which have been found "to answer so well in his different farms, parks, and gardens, that not a horse is now kept" for the purposes of husbandry. The oxen kept on the farms, and in the park, are 200. Forty are yearly purchased as succession oxen; 40 are fatted and sold; and 120 are under work. The absurd practice of coupling the latter with yokes is abandoned, and collars only are used: in this state their step is more free, and their labour performed with much greater ease. The kinds employed are suited to the soil and business. On the light soils the Devonshire sort are used; on the strong and heavy the Herefordshire; for carting, harrowing, and rolling, the Glamorganshire. The working oxen are mostly divided into teams of six; and as one of that number is daily rested, no ox labours more than five days in the week. This treatment enables the animal to retain his strength with the ordinary keep. Harder labour and higher feed would be injurious; for the nature of the ox will not admit of his being kept in condition, like a horse, artificially, by proportioning his food to increased exertions. Their summer food is only a few vetches, and what they obtain from

Digitized by Google

the leasowes or coarse meadows: in winter they have cut hay and wheat straw, one third of the latter being mixed with two-thirds of the former.

'Besides the improvements that have been effected in the park with respect to agriculture, several valuable plantations have been made on the high grounds, and the natural beauty of the scenery increased by the grand masses of wood which begin to overrun the eminences. Many parts display a pleasing variety of hill, valley, wood, and water, where the picturesque and romantic are the prevailing characteristics. From some points the views are peculiarly interesting—their general composition bearing a striking resemblance to the celebrated scenery of the New Forest. Virginia Water terminates with a cascade, executed from designs by Paul Sandby, esq. This was formed with large masses of stone, obtained from the sandy soil of Bagshot-heath, by boring to various depths. These are placed with some degree of taste and judgement, though the disposition of the whole is rather stiff and formal. The surplus waters flow over the top, and are broken into several streams by projecting stones.' P. 266.

In forming artificial cascades, it might be advisable to have models taken from nature in Switzerland and other distant countries, so that any charge of formality might be obviated. The cascade of Virginia Water always pleased us; and, notwithstanding the common advance of this charge against it, we have seen natural cascades far more formal.

The account of Stoke Pogis becomes interesting from its having been the residence of Gray, perhaps the most strictly classical poet in the English language; and we must highly applaud Mr. Penn's taste and liberality in erecting a monument to that exquisite writer. Our readers will be pleased with the entire history.

'Stoke Pogis is a large scattered village, which obtained the appellation *Pogeis* from its ancient lords of that name. The heiress of this family, in the reign of Edward the Third, married lord Molines, who shortly afterwards procured a license from the king to convert the manor-house into a castle. From him it descended to the lords Hungerford, and from them to the Hastings, earls of Huntingdon, and seems afterwards to have been the residence of the lord-chancellor Hatton. Sir Edward Coke having married an heiress of the Huntingdon family, became the next possessor; and here, in the year 1601, he was honoured with a visit from queen Elizabeth, whom he entertained in a very sumptuous style. It was afterwards the seat of Anne, viscountess Cobham, on whose death the estate was purchased by Mr. William Penn, chief proprietor of Penn-sylvania in America, and now belongs to John Penn, esq. his grandson.

'The old manor-house furnished the subject for the opening of Gray's humorously descriptive poem called the Long Story, in which the style of building and fantastic manners of Elizabeth's reign are delineated with much truth.

'Gray, when a student at Eton, occasionally resided with his

Digitized by Google

aunt in this village, whose church-yard was the scene of his much-admired elegy. It was also the place of his interment; though neither friend nor relation raised a stone to his memory till the year 1799, when the genius of poetry animated the kindred bosom of Mr. Penn to perform the long-neglected task. The monument erected by this gentleman stands in a field adjoining the church, and forms the termination of one of the views from Stoke-house.

'It is composed with stone, and consists of a large sarcophagus, supported on a square pedestal, with incriptions on each side. Three of them are selected from the Ode to Eton College, and Elegy written in a Country Church-yard. The fourth is as follows:

'This monument, in honour of
Thomas Gray,
Was erected A. D. 1799,
Among the scenery
Celebrated by that great lyric and elegiac poet.
He died in 1771,
And lies unnoticed in the adjoining church-yard,
Under the tombstone on which he piously
And pathetically recorded the interment
Of his aunt, and lamented mother.

'Stoke-park is the seat of John Penn, esq. who within a few years has made it one of the most charming and magnificent residences in this part of the county. The house was built in the year 1789, from designs by James Wyatt, esq. since when it has experienced several judicious alterations and considerable additions. It is built chiefly with brick, and covered with stucco, and consists of a large square centre with two wings. The north, or entrance front, is ornamented with a colonnade, consisting of ten Doric columns, and approached by a flight of steps, leading to the marble hall. The south front, 196 feet in length, is also adorned with a colonnade, consisting of twelve fluted columns of the old Doric order. Above this ascends a projecting portico, of four Ionic columns, sustaining an ornamental pediment. The marble hall is oval, and contains four fine marble busts, supported on scagliola pedestals. The whole interior length of the south front is intended to be occupied by an elegant and well-stored library. Besides several good portraits by Lely and Kneller, the following pieces are deserving attention.

'A large picture, containing four children of the Penn family, in a landscape, by sir Joshua Reynolds. This very fine picture may be classed with those which obtained our great English artist his deserved celebrity. The colouring is chaste and perfect, the composition is excellent, and the drawing correct.

'Three children of king Charles the First. There are so many duplicates of this exquisite picture, that we are led to suspect the originality of every one, except where it is accompanied with demonstrative evidence. The present picture, we are assured, is a true Vandyck, whose name it bears. It is finely coloured, and in good preservation.

'William Penn, the founder of Penn-sylvania, a half length.

Digitized by Google

This celebrated quaker was painted in armour about the age of twenty-two.

'The park, though rather flat, commands some very fine views, particularly to the south, where the eye is directed over a large sheet of water to the majestic castle of Windsor, beyond which Cooper's hill, and the forest woods, close the prospect. A large lake winds round the east side of the house, with a neat stone bridge thrown over it. The lake was originally formed by Richmond, but it has been considerably altered by Repton, who also directed the laying out of the park. About 300 yards from the north front of the house is a handsome fluted column, sixty-eight feet high, lately erected from a design by Mr. Wyatt. On the top is a colossal statue of sir Edward Coke, by Rosa.' P. 394.

Upon the whole, this is a very decent and pleasing work, and we wish the editors success in the progress of their design.

ART. VII.—*The Magus, or Celestial Intelligencer; being a complete System of occult Philosophy. In Three Books: containing the ancient and modern Practice of the Cabalistic Art, Natural and Celestial Magic, &c. showing the wonderful Effects that may be performed by a Knowledge of the Celestial Influences, the occult Properties of Metals, Herbs, and Stones, and the Application of active to passive Principles:—exhibiting the Sciences of natural Magic; Alchymy, or Hermetic Philosophy; also the Nature, Creation, and Fall of Man; his natural and supernatural Gifts; the Magical Power inherent in the Soul, &c.; with a great Variety of rare Experiments in natural Magic: the Constellatory Practice, or Talismanic Magic; the Nature of the Elements, Stars, Planets, Signs, &c.; the Construction and Composition of all Sorts of Magic Seals, Images, Rings, Glasses, &c.; the Virtue and Efficacy of Numbers, Characters, and Figures, of good and evil Spirits. Magnetism, and Cabalistical or Ceremonial Magic; in which the secret Mysteries of the Cabala are explained; the Operations of good and evil Spirits; all Kinds of Cabalistic Figures, Tables, Seals, and Names, with their Use, &c. The Times, Bonds, Offices, and Conjuration of Spirits. To which is added, Biographia antiqua, or the Lives of the most eminent Philosophers, Magi, &c. The whole illustrated with a great Variety of curious Engravings, Magical and Cabalistical Figures, &c. By Francis Barrett, F.R.C. Professor of Chemistry, natural and occult Philosophy, the Cabala, &c. &c. 4to. 1l. 7s. Boards.* Lackington *and* Co. 1801.

IN vain do we boast of the progress of philosophy;—for, behold! in the beginning of the nineteenth century appears a work which ought not to have surpassed the fifteenth. The prefixed portrait of the author seems rather to indicate weak-

ness than roguery; yet we are led to imagine that this compilation is a kind of advertisement intended to inform the public of a new cunning man.

In his preface, this philosopher of darkness gravely assumes the plural number; and, among other pieces of authentic information, may be mentioned the following.

'We have likewise proved how cures are performed by virtue of sympathetic powers and medicines—by seals, rings, and amulets, even at unlimited distances, which we have been witnesses of, and are daily confirmed in the true and certain belief of. We know how to communicate with any person, and to give him intimation of our purpose, at a hundred or a thousand miles distance; but then a preparation is necessary, and the parties should have their appointed seasons and hours for that purpose; likewise, both should be of the same firm constancy of mind, and a disciple or brother in art. And we have given methods whereby a man may receive true and certain intimation of future things (by dreams), of whatsoever his mind has before meditated upon, himself being properly disposed.' P. vii.

It would be loss of time to criticise with gravity so weak and ignorant a book; nor need the powers of ridicule be exerted against follies long since exploded. We shall therefore content ourselves with a few extracts, chiefly calculated for the reader's amusement. In treating of natural magic, our author thus proceedeth:

'It is likewise told Eve, after her transgression, that she should bring forth in pain. Therefore, what hath the pain of bringing forth common with the eating of the apple, unless the apple had operated about the concupiscence of the flesh, and by consequence stirred up copulation; and the Creator had intended to dissuade it, by dehorting from the eating of the apple. For why are the genital members of women punished with pains at child-birth, if the eye in seeing the apple, the hands in cropping it, and the mouth in eating it, have offended? for was it not sufficient to have chastised the life with death, and the health with very many diseases? Moreover, why is the womb afflicted, as in brutes, with the manner of bringing forth, if the conception granted to beasts were not forbidden to man?' Book i. P. 19.

'And, seeing the faunii and nymphs of the woods were preferred before the others in beauty, they afterwards generated their offspring amongst themselves, and at length began wedlocks with men, feigning that by these copulations they should obtain an immortal soul for them and their offspring; but this happened through the persuasions and delusions of Satan to admit these monsters to carnal copulation, which the ignorant were easily persuaded to; and therefore these nymphs are called *succubii*: although Satan afterwards committed worse, frequently transchanging himself, by assuming the persons of both incubii and succubii, in both sexes; but they con-

Digitized by Google

ceived not a true young by the males, except the nymphs alone. The which, indeed, seeing the sons of God (that is, men) had now, without distinction, and in many places, taken to be their wives, God was determined to blot out the whole race begotten by these infernal and detestable marriages, through a deluge of waters, that the intent of the evil spirit might be rendered frustrate.

'Of which monsters before mentioned I will here give a striking example from Helmont: for he says, a merchant of Ægina, a countryman of his, sailing various times unto the Canaries, was asked by Helmont for his serious judgement about certain creatures which the mariners frequently brought home from the mountains, as often as they went, and called them *tude-squils*; for they were dried dead carcases, almost three-footed, and so small that a boy might easily carry one of them upon the palm of his hand, and they were of an exact human shape; but their whole dead carcase was clear or transparent as any parchment, and their bones flexible like gristles; against the sun also their bowels and intestine were plainly to be seen; which thing I, by Spaniards there born, knew to be true. I considered that to this day the destroyed race of the Pygmies were there; for the Almighty would render the expectations of the evil spirit, supported by the abominable actions of mankind, void and vain; and he has therefore manifoldly saved us from the craft and subtilty of the devil, unto whom eternal punishments are due, to his extreme and perpetual confusion, unto the everlasting sanctifying of the divine name.' Book i. p. 23.

In this passage, as throughout the work, the author's ignorance is deplorably apparent. His plurals *faunii* and *incubii*, and his supposition that a merchant of Ægina could be a countryman of Helmont, evince a mind untinctured with the least colour of learning; as was indeed to have been expected from the very nature of the subject.

'Likewise of the virtues of simple animals, as well as manual operations, of which we shall speak more anon.—The application of hare's fat pulls out a thorn;—likewise any one may cure the tooth-ache with the stone that is in the head of the toad;—also, if any one shall catch a living frog before sun-rise, and he or she spit in the mouth of the frog, will be cured of an asthmatic consumption;—likewise the right or left eye of the same animal cures blindness; and the fat of a viper cures a bite of the same. Black hellebore easeth the head-ache, being applied to the head, or the powder snuffed up the nose in a moderate quantity. Coral is a well-known preservative against witchcraft and poisons, which if worn now, in this time, as much round children's necks as usual, would enable them to combat many diseases which their tender years are subjected to, and to which, with fascinations, they often fall victims. I know how to compose coral amulets, or talismans, which, if suspended even by a single thread, shall (God assisting) prevent all harms and accidents of violence from fire, or water, or witchcraft, and help them to withstand all their diseases.

'Paracelsus and Helmont both agree, that in the toad, although

Digitized by Google

so irreverent to the sight of man, and so noxious to the touch, and of such strong violent antipathy to the blood of man—I say, out of this hatred Divine Providence hath prepared us a remedy against manifold diseases most inimical to man's nature. The toad hath a natural aversion to man; and this sealed image, or idea of hatred, he carries in his head, eyes, and most powerfully throughout his whole body. Now that the toad may be highly prepared for a sympathetic remedy against the plague or other disorders, such as the ague, falling sicknesses, and various others; and that the terror of us, and natural inbred hatred may the more strongly be imprinted and higher ascend in the toad; we must hang him up aloft in the chimney by the legs, and set under him a dish of yellow wax, to receive whatsoever may come down, or fall from his mouth. Let him hang in this position, in our sight, for three or four days, at least till he is dead. Now we must not omit frequently to be present in sight of the animal, so that his fears and inbred terror of us, with the ideas of strong hatred, may increase even unto death.' Book i. p. 25.

'Rhubarb, on account of its violent antipathy to choler, wonderfully purges the same. Music is a well-known specific for curing the bite of a tarantula, or any venomous spider; likewise, water cures the hydrophobia. Warts are cured by paring off the same, or by burying as many pebbles secretly as the party has warts. The king's-evil may be cured by the heart of a toad worn about the neck, first being dried.—Hippomanes excites lust by the bare touch, or being suspended on the party. If any one shall spit in the hand with which he struck or hurt another, so shall the wound be cured; —likewise, if any one shall draw the halter wherewith a malefactor was slain across the throat of one who hath the quinsey, it certainly cures him in three days;—also, the herb cinquefoil being gathered before sun-rise, one leaf thereof cures the ague of one day; three leaves cures the tertian; and four the quartan ague. Rape-seed sown with cursings and imprecations grows the fairer, and thrives; but if with praises, the reverse. The juice of deadly nightshade, distilled, and given in a proportionate quantity, makes the party imagine almost whatever you choose. The herb nip, being heated in the hand, and afterwards you hold in your hand the hand of any other party, they shall never quit you so long as you retain that herb. The herbs arsesmart, comfrey, flaxweed, dragon-wort, adder's-tongue, being steeped in cold water, and if for some time being applied on a wound or ulcer, they grow warm, and are buried in a muddy place, cureth the wound or sore to which they were applied. Again; if any one pluck the leaves of asarabacca, drawing them upwards, they will purge another, who is ignorant of the drawing, by vomit only; but if they are wrested downward to the earth, they purge by stool. A sapphire, or a stone that is of a deep blue colour, if it be rubbed on a tumor wherein the plague discovers itself, (before the party is too far gone,) and by-and-by it be removed from the sick, the absent jewel attracts all the poison or contagion therefrom. And thus much is sufficient to be said concerning natural occult virtues, whereof we speak in a mixed and miscellaneous manner, coming to more distinct heads anon.' Book i. p. 29.

Digitized by Google

The following sentences, p. 66, are curious.

'Perhaps, I do not doubt but, there are some that will say, when they look at our works, this fellow is all rant, all preaching—he tells us what we knew before as well as himself. To such I say, let them read our book but twice; if they do not gather something that they will acknowledge precious, (nay, be convinced that it is precious, to their own satisfaction) I will burn these writings, and they shall be no more remembered by me.' Book i. P. 66.

In this we are inclined to believe the author; for not the philosopher's stone itself should tempt us to read the book twice.

'Furthermore, that there are miraculous ecstasies belonging to the more inward man is beyond dispute. That there are also ecstasies in the animal man, by reason of an intense or heightened imagination, is without doubt. Martin del Rie, an elder of the society of Jesus, in his Magical Disquisitions or Inquiries, makes mention of a certain young man in the city Insulis that was transported with so violent a desire of seeing his mother, that through the same intense desire, as if being rapt up by an ecstasy, he saw her perfectly, although many miles absent from thence; and, returning again to himself, being mindful of all that he had seen, gave many true signs of his true presence with his mother.

'Now that desire arose from the more outward man, viz. from blood and sense, or flesh, is certain; for, otherwise, the soul being once dislodged, or loosened from the bonds of the body, cannot, except by miracle, be re-united to it; there is therefore in the blood a certain ecstatical or transporting power, which, if at any time shall be excited or stirred up by an ardent desire and most strong imagination, it is able to conduct the spirit of the more outward man even to some absent and far distant object; but then that power lies hid in the more outward man, as it were in *potentia*, or by way of possibility; neither is it brought into act unless it be roused up by the imagination, inflamed and agitated by a most fervent and violent desire.' Book ii. P. 12.

In this passage, *Del Ris* should be *Delrio*; and the city *Insulis* happens to be *Lisle*.

We shall conclude with the following advertisement, which we believe to be intended as the chief nostrum in the book.

'The author of this work respectfully informs those who are curious in the studies of art and nature, especially of natural and occult philosophy, chemistry, astrology, &c. &c. that having been indefatigable in his researches into those sublime sciences, of which he has treated at large in this book, that he gives private instructions and lectures upon any of the above-mentioned sciences; in the course of which he will discover many curious and rare experiments. Those who become students will be initiated into the choicest operations of natural philosophy, natural magic, the cabala, chemistry, the talismanic art, hermetic philosophy, astrology, physiognomy, &c. &c.

Digitized by Google

Likewise they will acquire the knowledge of the rites, mysteries, ceremonies, and principles of the ancient philosophers, magi, cabalists, adepts, &c.—The purpose of this school (which will consist of no greater number than twelve students) being to investigate the hidden treasures of nature; to bring the mind to a contemplation of the eternal wisdom; to promote the discovery of whatever may conduce to the perfection of man; the alleviating the miseries and calamities of this life, both in respect of ourselves and others; the study of morality and religion here, in order to secure to ourselves felicity hereafter; and, finally, the promulgation of whatever may conduce to the general happiness and welfare of mankind.—Those who feel themselves thoroughly disposed to enter upon such a course of studies, as is above recited, with the same principles of philanthropy with which the author invites the lovers of philosophy and wisdom to incorporate themselves in so select, permanent, and desirable a society, may speak with the author upon the subject, at any time between the hours of eleven and two o'clock, at 99, Norton-street, Mary-le-bonne.

'Letters (post paid) upon any subject treated of in this book, will be duly answered, with the necessary information.' Book ii. p. 140.

We cannot guess the meaning of the letters F. R. C. appended to the author's name, except they imply Fellow of a Roguish Company.

The magical biography at the end corresponds with the rest, in nonsense and credulity.—*Apage!*

ART. VIII.—*Notes, Critical and Dissertatory, on the Gospel and Epistles of St. John. By the Rev. R. Shepherd, D. D. &c. 4to. 1l. 5s. Boards.* Mawman.

THIS volume, we are informed by the author, was printed several years since—at which time a few copies only were permitted to pass out of his hands, one of which was presented to the bishop of Durham. His lordship condescended, we are told, to notice some errors, and to make some 'judicious observations' on the work; but as these observations are not presented to us, we can only presume, from the general character of his lordship, that 'a significant objection,' as the author terms it, offered by the worthy prelate to his consideration, referred to the doctrines maintained in this extraordinary publication, and was followed up by a remonstrance against its appearance in the world under the sanction of a member of the church of England. But we begin to cease from all surprise at any thing in our ecclesiastical œconomy. The Athanasian creed has been lately impugned by a prelate: and the doctrine of the Trinity, as maintained in that creed and in our articles, and as it runs through the whole of our liturgy, is now severely im-

Digitized by Google

pugned by an archdeacon. The Articles doubtless stand in the way of this mode of treating the church; and we were prepared by the preface to this strange production for what we were to expect in the body of the work itself.

'By the 6th, the 20th, and the 21st Articles of our church, I conceive myself not only authorised but invited to study the sacred scriptures, to investigate the sense and meaning of every passage, and more particularly of every difficult and doubtful passage in them, and by them to examine every doctrine of every church. The thirty-nine Articles may be considered—to express myself in the language of the law—as constituting a deed consisting of a number of detached clauses. And as there is in every deed a particular and ruling object, and applying to that object a primary and principal clause, which involves the jet that pervades and governs the whole, and to which every doubtful clause is subordinate and referable—such I conceive to be the nature, force, and consequence of the three articles to which I have alluded, and particularly the sixth, in respect to the general code consisting of thirty-nine. Supported by that Article, and resting on the full and true intent and meaning of it, an honest and conscientious man may, I conceive, subscribe to the whole code, the valuable legacy of our great and good reformers; though, after a diligent investigation of the subject, he may not in every Article exactly agree in the sense and signification of the Scripture, on which the compilers framed it. And on that ground I have no doubt that bishop Burnet and Dr. Bennet, who both wrote on the thirty-nine Articles, and both agree that the compilers of them did not appear in the eleventh Article to have understood the true sense of St. Paul, subscribed their assent to it; for they must either have affixed their own sense to that Article, or have subscribed their assent to it in what they thought a false one.' P. xv.

We request our readers to peruse again and again the above extract, and to compare it with the sophistry we have so frequently and so unfortunately had occasion of late to bring to their notice, as adopted by the Cambridge divines on subscription to the Articles. 'An honest and conscientious man may subscribe,' it seems, though he do not accede to every article: and of course our author himself, according to his own system, has not by his subscription resisted the dictates of his conscience; though the main article in which he differs from the compilers of the articles at large is that in which almost all the Christian churches in the world are united, and which forms a fundamental article of our own church.

'But' (continues our author) 'if there were in the whole code of Articles a single one that, on the ground of Scripture, would not bear a candid and impartial investigation, such as might be expected from the two respectable writers cited above, it would, with due submission I conceive, afford a powerful plea for the revisal of them; which, unless my ideas of truth and the power of it deceive me, would con-

Digitized by Google

duce much to the interests of religion, and not less to the security and tranquillity of the established church. And such my fallible judgement I do with the more confidence advance; as two respectable characters, now deservedly promoted to very high stations in the church, some years ago not only expressed their wishes to see it effected, but were active in their exertions to promote it.' P, xvii.

Doubtless there is a necessity for a revisal of the articles: for if, in one diocese, a bishop objects to a part of the liturgy, an archdeacon to an article on the divinity of Christ, and a parish priest of great eminence thinks lightly of the articles relative to discipline, it is incumbent on the heads of the church to inquire into the real state of the controversy, and either to alter the articles agreeably to the new modes of belief, or to enforce a full acquiescence in them, consistently with the terms of subscription as prescribed by the law of the land.

From the Gospel according to St. John divines have presumed to deduce several strong arguments that Jesus Christ, touching his divine nature, was in no respect 'before nor after' the first and third persons of the Trinity; that he is equal to the Father as to his godhead, but inferior to the Father as to his manhood. All these arguments, however, have no weight with our author; the chief drift of his work being to show that they are without foundation, and that Jesus Christ, in both his divine and human nature, is inferior to the Father. 'There is nothing,' says our author, 'which Jesus more repeatedly disclaims than equality with God. The Father and the Son cannot be the one same God supreme.' Christ is—

'—a superior being, who should know no corruption: a prince, of whose kingdom there should be no end: whose generation none should be able to declare; a God with us; and though a Being other than, and inferior to, the supreme, self-existent, indivisible God, even the Father, of origin very different from that of mere man, of nature supra-human and divine.' P. 63.

In a note on chap. xiii. 20, we find our author declaring that in this verse 'the superiority of Christ to his disciples is asserted, and by the same rule of judging is marked the superiority of the father to Christ.' The same sentiment is more strongly expressed in a note on chap. xx. 17.

'Our Lord had now put off mortality: he was no longer a human being; though he was not perfected in glory. Yet existing in such superior state, he styles the supreme God, even the Father, whose delegate he had been on earth, *his* God, as well as the God of his disciples, the universal Father, the God of Gods and Lord of Lords. Hence then it is very clear, that God the Father was the God of our Saviour after his resurrection: and what authority have we for supposing he was not such after our Lord's ascension? Or rather, if he declare so expressly, so unequivocally, that he was going to his

Digitized by Google

God, doth not the common import of language instruct us that his God to whom he was going was likewise his God when he arrived there: the same God and Father who first *sent* him, from whom he issued, and to whom he returned? St. Paul seems to have thought so, as appears in his Epistle to the Ephesians, chap. i. ver. 3. "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ." P. 226.

In consistency with this mode of interpreting the Scriptures, the first epistle of John, chap. i. 3, affords another opportunity to our author of bringing forward his favorite doctrine.

'In this passage not only the Father is distinguished from Jesus Christ then ascended into heaven and seated on the right hand of the throne of glory, but God the Father is distinguished from the Lord Jesus Christ: and such distinction of course destroys all ideas of identity. If the Father be emphatically styled God, and Jesus Christ in contradistinction be styled Lord, no rule of grammar, no construction of language, will authorise us to acknowledge that Jesus Christ be the same God that the Father is, who is emphatically and distinguishly so denominated.' P. 342.

Even the strong passage in St. Paul, which is considered as one of the most potent arguments in Scripture in favour of the co-equal godhead of Christ, is said by our author to be a convincing proof to the contrary.

'One property of Almighty God is immutability. *I am the Lord, I change not.* This assertion therefore of the apostle, *he emptied himself of his glory*, affords a powerful argument that our blessed Saviour, though in the form or character of God, was not himself the God supreme. As sure as he could not change, he could not empty himself of his glory. And with the voice of Scripture reason concurs in assuring us of the unchangeableness of Almighty God. "He cannot change for the better, because he is infinitely perfect; he cannot change for the worse, because he would then cease to be infinitely perfect, i. e. cease to be what he necessarily is.' P. 366.

We might extract a great number of similar passages; for the writer is careful not to let slip any opportunity of introducing the inferiority of Christ to the Father, with respect even to his divine nature, or of attacking the Socinians on their disbelief of his pre-existence: in short, the author explains the whole of the Gospel upon Arian principles, and is, consequently, just as much out of the pale of the church as any disciple of Socinus whatever. He may indeed not be so widely distant; but there cannot be a doubt that the whole of this explanation is diametrically contrary to the spirit of the church Articles: and as long as these Articles are of any authority, as long as the doctrine of the Trinity is considered to be orthodox, as long as our liturgy remains unaltered, the man who maintains the doctrines we have extracted from this work withdraws himself from the au-

Digitized by Google

thority of the Articles, must be reputed heterodox, and cannot, without the utmost inconsistency, adopt the established prayers.

But, though it be incumbent on us to point out the general tendency of the work, we must not deny to the writer the credit which is due to him for the attention he has paid, according to his own system, to the interpretation of the Scriptures; and both the Athanasian and Socinian may derive instruction from his pages. It is too customary with persons on all sides of the question to lay a stress on every text which seems to bear at all in their own favour; although by such means they do not in the least increase the confidence of their own abettors, while they alienate in a very high degree the minds of the opposite party. Thus an injudicious advocate for orthodoxy finds in the two first words of St. John's Gospel (εν αρχη) a proof of the doctrine of the Trinity, and exposes himself to deserved censure: for, if we may not subscribe to the Arian opinion maintained in this work, or to the interpretations of different Socinians, we must concede to both parties that these two words do not refer to the period commonly meant by the term *eternity*. The argument, from the application of the definite article to Θεος, *God*, in two parts of the first verse, and the absence of it when it becomes the predicate of a proposition to which Λογος is the subject, is reviewed with much precision; and the observations are sufficient to prevent any great stress from being laid on this verse, as to the mode of divinity predicated of the Λογος in the context. From the reasons given for the writer's interpretation of πρωτος μου, that by it nothing but priority of time could possibly be meant, we must beg leave to differ; 'for, as to mundane and temporal greatness,' says the author, 'the Baptist was Christ's superior: he was the son of a priest; whereas our Lord was the supposed son of a very inferior character.' Temporal greatness is here falsely estimated; and besides the supernatural birth of our Saviour, with which John could not be unacquainted, he knew him to be the son of David, which gave him higher pretensions than could belong to any priest whatever, much more to the son of a priest of inferior rank. A most extraordinary turn given to a plain passage in Scripture we find on the confession of Nathaniel; on which our author remarks, that—

'—faith in the incarnation of God was then, we find, the great mystery of godliness—all the faith which Jesus himself required of his immediate disciples. But in that faith in the incarnation of the Son of God many articles of belief are included, which were afterwards gradually evolved; such as redemption from sin, the dispensing power of death and salvation, &c. And after he rose from the dead, belief in his resurrection was added, and particularly insisted on by his apostles as an article of faith necessary to salvation. And

Digitized by Google

this acknowledgment of Nathaniel's faith accords very closely with the explanation of the doctrines of Christianity, which Justin Martyr, in the second century, delivered to Rusticus, prefect of Rome, on his requisition of them.' P. 25.

But the words of Nathaniel have surely in that passage no reference at all to the prior existence of Christ, whether, as a Jew, that doctrine were open to him or not; for his faith consisted in the confession that the person to whom he spoke was the Messiah, the king of Israel.

Our limits will not permit us to expatiate farther on this extraordinary publication; nor could we well do it, without entering into a controversy in which the public at large seems to take little interest;—and, indeed, the moment the trinity in the godhead is denied, it seems to be of little consequence whether we adopt the high or low Arian, or the Socinian opinion of the character of Christ. The latitude assumed by this writer in the interpretation of some texts cannot in justice be denied to the Socinian, who will be quite satisfied with the support he receives from his antagonist on the main question, in which they are equally at issue with the church: and surely it was not the part of a churchman to put arms into the hands of an adversary to that establishment from which he receives both dignity and emolument! We cannot believe that we are the only persons who recommend to the writer to re-consider his opinions, in connexion with his office.

ART. IX.—*Lectures on Painting, delivered at the Royal Academy, March* 1801, *by Henry Fuseli, P. P. With additional Observations and Notes. 4to.* 12*s. Boards.* Johnson. 1801.

THESE lectures display a considerable degree of reading and knowledge of the subject; and our ingenious artist even affects to quote Greek. But the chief object in a work of this nature should be to present a just and pure taste; and we here observe with regret too many traces of that singularity which distinguishes the pencil of Mr. Fuseli. His paintings indeed have attracted more notice from this circumstance than from their pretensions to elegance or sublimity; and in his whole exhibition of devils we did not observe one piece of distinguished merit. Michael Angelo, comparing the vigour and spirit of the ancient representations with the tameness of his own times, not only recurred to them with superior force and effect, but, as usual in such cases, rather proceeded to the opposite extreme, and outstepped the modesty of nature. There are many positions of which the human form is capable, and

Digitized by Google

many arrangements of the features which are merely momentary; and to eternise them in statuary or painting is to offer a violence to the passions, which is always disgustful to the man of taste and sobriety. We believe our readers will unanimously agree that such is the effect of many of Mr. Fuseli's productions, which as far overstep Michael Angelo as this latter ever overstepped nature herself. The question ought not to be, what position the human form will admit of, or what violence certain passions may impart to the features, but what position and what violence will bear to be perpetuated in sculpture or painting? Yet this plain argument seems always and totally to have escaped the recollection of Mr. Fuseli, whose radical fault consists in a constant opposition to it. We need not go far for an example; for in the title-page of this very volume is a female figure damned to such a posture as no human being could sustain for five minutes, without the most excruciating head-ach. Mr. Fuseli thus reminds us of those wonderful artists on the violin, who make it exhibit every thing except the production of good melody. If the cause of this defect be the want of good sense, *our lecture* will be vain; but as Mr. Fuseli has great capabilities, we hope he will profit by it, and dismiss those extravagant postures and contortions which, if they could ever occur in real life, would be viewed with utter disgust, and which become still more disgusting by being perpetuated.

As the question of just taste is a principal object in a treatise on painting, we have been constrained to estimate the taste of the new professor of painting in the Royal Academy by that best criterion—his own works. We now return to this book merely as a literary production, after expressing the deepest sorrow and the most unfeigned regret that the professor of painting to the English school should be a foreigner, and that foreigner a Swiss!—*Boni Dii!* a Swiss teach the principles of taste! In how many strange points of view might an Italian, or even a French or Spanish painter place this singular phænomenon! With an utter contempt for all national prejudices, and an open heart for the learned and ingenious of every climate under the sun, we still must think it the height of absurdity that our English schools should have any instructor but one of their own countrymen.

As a specimen of the work before us, we shall select the beginning of the first lecture, which presents the plan, and is, upon the whole, the most favorable that could have been produced.

'The difficulties of the task prescribed to me, if they do not preponderate, are at least equal to the honour of the situation. If, to discourse on any topic with truth, precision, and clearness, before a mixed or fortuitous audience, before men neither initiated in the

Digitized by Google

subject, nor rendered minutely attentive by expectation, be no easy task; how much more arduous must it be to speak systematically on an art before a select assembly, composed of professors whose life has been divided between theory and practice; of critics whose taste has been refined by contemplation and comparison; and of students who, bent on the same pursuit, look for the best and always most compendious method of mastering the principles, to arrive at its emoluments and honours. Your lecturer is to instruct them in the principles of "composition; to form their taste for design and colouring; to strengthen their judgement; to point out to them the beauties and imperfections of celebrated works of art; and the particular excellencies and defects of great masters; and, finally, to lead them into the readiest and most efficacious paths of study."—If, gentlemen, these directions presuppose in the student a sufficient stock of elementary knowledge; an expertness in the rudiments—not mere wishes, but a peremptory will of improvement and judgement with docility—how much more do they imply in the person selected to address them, knowledge founded on theory, substantiated and matured by practice; a mass of select and well-digested materials; perspicuity of method and command of words; imagination to place things in such views as they are not commonly seen in; presence of mind, and that resolution, the result of conscious vigour, which, in submitting to correct mistakes, cannot be easily discountenanced.—As conditions like these would discourage abilities far superior to mine, my hopes of approbation, moderate as they are, must in a great measure depend on that indulgence which may grant to my will what it would refuse to my powers.

'In the arrangement of my plan I shall prefer a progressive method, that may enable me, on future occasions, to treat more fully those parts which the pressure of others, seemingly or really more important, has obliged me to dismiss more abruptly or with less consideration than they have a right to claim. The first lecture exhibits a more critical than an historic sketch of the origin and progress of our art, confining research to that period, when fact and substantial information took place of conjecture; it naturally divides itself into two parts, the art of the ancients, and its restoration among the moderns: each is divided into three periods, that of preparation, that of full establishment, and that of refinement. The second lecture treats on the real subjects of painting and the plastic arts, in contradistinction to the subjects exclusively belonging to poetry—endeavouring to establish the reciprocal limits of both from the essential difference of their medium and materials. It establishes three principal classes of painting—the epic, the dramatic, and the historic; with their collateral branches of characteristic portrait and landscape, and the inferior subdivisions of imitation. In the third, design, correctness, copy, imitation, style, with its degrees of essential, characteristic, ideal, and deviation into manner, are considered, and the classes of the models left us in the remains of ancient sculpture, arranged. The fourth is devoted to invention, in its most general and specific sense, as it discovers, selects, combines the possible, the probable, and the known materials of nature, in a mode that strikes with novelty. The fifth follows with com-

Digitized by Google

position and expression—the dresser and the soul of invention. The sixth concludes with observations on colour, drapery, and execution.

'Such is the regular train of observations on an inexhaustible art, which—if life and circumstances sanction the wish—I mean to submit to your consideration in a future course: at present, the exuberance of the subject, the consideration due to each part, the various modes of treatment that presented themselves in the course of study, my necessary professional avocations, and some obstacles which I could as little foresee as avoid, grant scarcely more than fragments to lay before you. The first lecture, or the critical history of ancient and modern style, from its extreme richness and, as it appears to me, importance, is at present divided into two. The third will contain materials of the proper subjects of the art, and of invention, extracted from the second and the fourth, and connected by obvious analogy.

'But before I proceed to the history of style itself, it seems to be necessary that we should agree about the terms which denote its object, and perpetually recur in treating of it; that my vocabulary of technic expression should not clash with the dictionary of my audience: mine is nearly that of your late president. I shall confine myself at present to a few of the most important; the words nature, beauty, grace, taste, copy, imitation, genius, talent. Thus, by nature I understand the general and permanent principles of visible objects, not disfigured by accident, or distempered by disease, not modified by fashion or local habits. Nature is a collective idea, and, though its essence exist in each individual of the species, can never in its perfection inhabit a single object. On beauty I do not mean to perplex you or myself with abstract ideas, and the romantic reveries of Platonic philosophy, or to inquire whether it be the result of a simple or complex principle. As a local idea, Beauty is a despotic princess, and subject to the anarchies of Despotism, enthroned to-day, dethroned to-morrow. The beauty we acknowledge is that harmonious whole of the human frame, that unison of parts to one end, which enchants us—the result of the standard set by the great masters of our art, the ancients, and confirmed by the submissive verdict of modern imitation. By grace I mean that artless balance of motion and repose sprung from character, founded on propriety, which neither falls short of the demands nor overleaps the modesty of nature. Applied to execution, it means that dextrous power which hides the means by which it was attained, the difficulties it has conquered. When we say taste, we mean not crudely the knowledge of what is right in art: taste estimates the degrees of excellence, and by comparison proceeds from justness to refinement. Our language, or rather those who use it, generally confound, when speaking of the art, copy with imitation, though essentially different in operation and meaning. Precision of eye and obedience of hand are the requisites of the former, without the least pretence to choice, what to select, what to reject; whilst choice directed by judgement or taste constitutes the essence of imitation, and alone can raise the most dextrous copyist to the noble rank of an artist. The imitation of the ancients was essential, characteristic, ideal. The first cleared

Digitized by Google

nature, of accident, defect, excrescence; the second found the stamen which connects character with the central form; the third raised the whole and the parts to the highest degree of unison. Of genius I shall speak with reserve, for no word has been more indiscriminately confounded; by genius I mean that power which enlarges the circle of human knowledge, which discovers new materials of nature, or combines the known with novelty; whilst talent arranges, cultivates, polishes the discoveries of genius.' P. 1.

We shall not repeat the trivial and common-place accounts of the origin and progress of painting. In p. 26, &c. our author enters into a dispute with M. Falconet concerning the sacrifice of Iphigenia painted by Timanthes. Falconet thinks that the circumstance of her father's face being concealed is rather objectionable than laudable, and savours of sophistry—the chief object of art being to overcome a difficulty. This question we shall not stop to examine; but when we reflect that Falconet's statue of the Russian czar has been allowed, even by prejudiced spectators, to excel in novelty, grandeur, and effect, we could not repress indignation on observing our Swiss professor style it 'the ridiculous colossus of Peter the Great.' It is a vulgar but sensible remark, that a man who has a glass head should not throw stones; and as Mr. Fuseli uses such unwarrantable freedoms, we must beg leave to inform him that this statue will be greatly admired in the year 2000; at which time his ridiculous pictures, whether colossal or dwarfish, will be sold at mean prices by the brokers, or perhaps collected by some crack-brained connoisseur, who may arise to emulate the famous Sicilian prince in a new collection of monsters.—So much for the retort courteous, and so much in revenge of insulted genius.

After this fatal proof of want of taste, or, what is perhaps worse, the sacrifice of common candour to a trifling literary question, we shall not stop to examine the rest of our author's opinions, though many are extremely controvertible; and in the progress of the work we meet with singularities of style which evince that Mr. Fuseli is not master of the English language, or is resolved to violate its dignity as much as his paintings do that of nature. The character of Salvator Rosa may be given as another proof of candour and taste.

'The wildness of Salvator Rosa opposes a powerful contrast to the classic regularity of Poussin. Terrific and grand in his conceptions of inanimate nature, he was reduced to attempts of hiding, by boldness of hand, his inability of exhibiting her impassioned, or in the dignity of character: his line is vulgar: his magic visions, less founded on the principles of terror than on mythologic trash and caprice, are to the probable combinations of nature what the paroxysms of a fever are to the flights of vigorous fancy. Though so much extolled and so ambitiously imitated, his banditti are a medley made

Digitized by Google

up of starveling models, shreds and bits of armour from his lumber-room, brushed into notice by a daring pencil. Salvator was a satyrist and a critic; but the rod which he had the insolence to lift against the nudities of Michael Angelo, and the anachronism of Raphael, would have been better employed in chastising his own misconceptions.' P. 76.

Equally ridiculous is the note (p. 78) on portrait-painting, in which the writer shows a total unacquaintance with its very nature and principles. But our author is a most determined critic; and few names have escaped his censures, either direct or oblique. If we remember rightly, sir Joshua Reynolds was accustomed to blame by his silence alone; and surely nothing can be more indecent than to convert the chair of a professor into the tub of a satirist. But Mr. Fuseli's satirical turn seems connected with the bias of his taste; and never is malignity accompanied with true genius. This, however, is only another violent posture; and the whole is of a piece. It would form a good subject for a Hogarth, to delineate Mr. Fuseli in the professor's chair.

ART. X. — *Sermons on various Subjects. By Edward Pye Waters, A. B. &c.* 8vo. 7s. *Boards.* Whites.

IN the first discourse we meet with the following, among other questions of similar import. 'Has not a whole powerful and civilised nation, assembled in council, impiously decreed that there is no God?'—The nation to whom the preacher alludes most assuredly never did; and the late rebellion in Ireland is, with an equal ignorance of facts, termed 'a dire union of atheism and bigotry.' But allowing the representations of the preacher to be true, what good end could it possibly answer to divert the attention of an audience, on a Sunday, from truths of the highest importance, inculcated by Scripture authority, to the affairs of France and Ireland—subjects which every good man would wish to keep removed from his sight on the day devoted to religion, to the ennobling intercourse between himself and his Maker?—Equally injudicious are the ensuing queries. 'Where are we to look for pure and undefiled religion? Is it within the pale of the established church?—Most assuredly there, if any where,' is the answer promptly given by the preacher to himself, forgetting the maxim of Scripture, 'Let another man praise thee, and not thy own lips.' The proper reply would have been, that true religion is to be found only in the word of God; and that men may profess to be members of any church, may boast of being within the pale of

Digitized by Google

the church of England, of Rome, or of Scotland—all established churches,—and yet be strangers to the church of Christ. But we must allow something to an orator;—and his panegyric on the church is drawn up under a happy figure.

'There is in religion, as in the circumstances of society, a golden mean; and as the happiest climate of the world lies between the extremes of heat and cold, so also in religion is there a temperate zone, equally distant from the fervor of enthusiasm and the coldness of infidelity, most kindly to the growth and produce of religious knowledge, and favorable to the encouragement of every good and pious affection. In this temperature is situated the church of England, thus established in the remotest point from every extreme: therein have the truths of religion been the most securely and profitably studied, and therein have flourished the fairest examples of ardent faith and unsullied righteousness.' p. 16.

In another sermon we lose the preacher entirely, and seem to see the orator on the treasury-bench in St. Stephen's chapel.

'It is from the influence of the eternal principles of justice that the people of Great-Britain have assumed the commanding and majestic character of the restorers of the long-lost tranquillity and honour of Europe. It is on these principles that they demand, not so much indemnity for the past, as security for the future; and seek, through such prodigious and continued efforts, not aggrandisement for themselves, nor their allies, but the real happiness and sober prosperity of those whom she has been compelled to call and treat as enemies. It is in support of the same cause, in support of our dearest rights, that we have successfully exerted ourselves in resisting our internal enemies, who have laboured with unwearied perseverance and undiminished hardihood to introduce the same dreadful scenes of anarchy into this country which have laid France in blood and ruin, and that we have arrested the progress of rebellion, averted the overthrow of our long-tried establishments, civil and religious, and escaped the plunder and desolation which attend all sweeping innovations. It is by the preventing power of these principles that our reason has not been sophisticated, nor our hearts corrupted by a foolish, proud, and savage philosophy—a philosophy which we have discovered to be as ignorant as it is presumptuous, when it would teach us that government can have any other foundations than religion and morality: as absurd as it is ungenerous, when it would induce us to forget our obligations to our ancestors, and disregard our duties to posterity: as delusive as it is barbarous, when it would persuade us to display our courage, by braving our consciences; our humanity, by wading through blood for speculative and contingent advantage; and our justice, by trampling on all established rights. And, above all, it is by the intervention of these principles that we have not yet, by a national act, denied the existence and defied the power of our God, refused the gracious offers of salvation brought unto us by our Redeemer, and haughtily rejected

Digitized by Google

the benign influence of the Holy Spirit;—in a word, that we have "walked humbly with our God." P. 179.

'So entirely, indeed, have the weakness, the baseness, and the atrocity of the modern revolutionary doctrines been unveiled, that if any men remain still inclined to adopt them, we must either pity his blindness, or shudder at his wickedness. We must not, however, relax in our opposition to the emissaries of rebellion and anarchy; since, as long as there are weak and unprincipled men in the world, so long it will be necessary to associate in defence of good order and religion.' P. 181.

We cannot too much reprobate this mode of preaching. Let the pulpit be dedicated to higher strains of instruction; let no worldly thoughts interfere to give the hearer an opinion of his own superior righteousness: the church is not the place for comparisons between one audience and another; the great and everlasting Gospel is not to be debased by temporal occurrences or speculations on human affairs.

ART. XI. — *General View of the Agriculture in the County of Perth: with Observations on the Means of its Improvement. By James Robertson, D. D. Minister at Callander in the County of Perth. Drawn up for the Consideration of the Board of Agriculture and internal Improvement.* 8vo. Morison, Perth.

AGRICULTURE, though more lately practised in any great extent, has been carried on with more scientific precision, and more philosophical discrimination, in North than in South Britain. The reason perhaps may be, that the middling class of yeomen or renters is little known. Those who did not possess estates in their own right were in general servants; and agriculture, thus in the hands of the higher and better educated ranks, has been more carefully and judiciously promoted. It is perhaps for a similar reason that the best gardeners in England are from the north, and that thence also we have received the results of experiments conducted with more exactitude, and planned with greater ability, than in our own part of the country. Perthshire is a county of considerable magnitude, and it occupies nearly the centre of the kingdom; bordering on the Highlands westward, and on the maritime districts in its eastern frontier.

'The land to which the following survey refers seems to divide that part of Scotland on the south, which is generally adapted to the raising of grain, from that on the north; which, with few exceptions, is more fitted for pasture.

'It is also singular that the county under review divides those

Digitized by Google

parts of the kingdom on the north, where firs abounded in former times, which are still found in the mosses, from those in the south, which carried oaks and a variety of other wood, but no firs, as far as I have ever heard. Nature herself, which never errs, appears to have clad our bleak mountains with a mantle, which is for ever green; while she had planted trees, which shed their leaves, where ornament and shelter were less necessary, lest perhaps the verdure of the ground would be too much intercepted from the eye of man.

'In this county is the boundary between those parts of Britain where coal has been discovered, and those where coal has not hitherto been found—that useful fossil, which is so necessary for the comfort of the southern districts, being less requisite in the north, where extensive forests of the pine, the best of all fuel, formerly grew, and still grow spontaneously.

'Here is also the division betwixt the granite and the free-stone; there being no free-stone north of us, and the granite less frequent than the free-stone on the south. Our hewing-stone quarries gradually harden as you approach the Grampians.

'Slates, that beautiful covering for houses, are found in few parts of Britain south of this county.

'Another distinguishing feature of this county is, that it contains more oak-woods than are to be found in all the other counties of North-Britain.' P. xix.

We greatly regret the want of a map of this county, in which the different soils might be laid down as in many of the agricultural reports of England. Without this assistance it is almost impossible to form or to convey any adequate idea of the soil. It is in general clay, or a rich loam, in consequence of the overflowing of brooks; and the soil consists of carses (the clay) and haughs, the regions occasionally overflowed. We shall add the author's bold outline from the topographical description in the Appendix.

'In a surface so extensive, it may naturally be supposed that the country exhibits an appearance very much diversified. The grandest object which attracts the notice of a stranger, traveling northward from Edinburgh or Glasgow, is the boldness of the Grampian mountains, piled upon one another in huge masses, which extend not only the whole length of this county, but reach across the island, from Aberdeen on the German Ocean to Cowal on the Atlantic. The southern front of these mountains, which runs from south-west to north-east, has in many places a gradual and pleasing slope into a champaign country of great extent and fertility; and notwithstanding the forbidding aspect, at first sight, of the mountains themselves, with their mantle of heath and rugged rocks, they are intersected in a thousand directions by winding valleys, which are watered by rivers and brooks of the most limpid water, clad with the richest pastures, sheltered by thriving woods that fringe the lakes and run along the streams, and are accessible in most places by roads unquestionably the best in Britain. These valleys, where there is such a rich variety of natural beauty, form a contrast to the ruggedness of the surround-

Digitized by Google

ing mountains, and present to the eye such romantic scenery as must be admired by every traveler of taste. The rivers in the deep defiles struggle to find a passage where the opposite hills approach so near, the indented rocks and impending woods embrace so closely, that the waters rush with incredible force, and a deafening roar, in proportion to the altitude of the fall. Then plains of various extent burst suddenly on the eye, which are filled with villages and well-cultivated farms. Chains of lakes, finely wooded down to the water-edge, are connected with mæandering streams, stored with a variety of fish. The hills are covered with snowy flocks, and numerous herds are browsing on the pastures below.—The noblemen and gentlemen's houses are generally set down on the side of a lake, or on gentle declivities facing the meridian sun, with a lawn in front intersected by the winding links of a river, and plantations of stately oaks, beeches, and other forest trees on the right and on the left, which together with the hills behind, variegated with planting, increase their beauty and their warmth.—The author has been advised by the Board to place this Topographical Description, not in the front of the Report, but in the Appendix, in which he has endeavoured to give some account of the general appearance of the surface of Perthshire, its most remarkable rivers, lakes, and mountains, the situation, prospects, and embellishments, of some of the noblemen and gentlemen's seats, with such remarks upon each as have naturally occurred.

'Along the south side of the Grampians, and on the north side of another range of green hills, there lies a large valley, or strath, which runs in the same direction with these mountains, and terminates on the north-east at Stonehaven, and on the south-west at Dunbarton, reaching from sea to sea. This strath is of unequal breadth, from ten to fifteen miles over, in different places, and upwards of one hundred miles long. It is intersected by many large and beautiful rivers, every one of which is peculiar to this county, excepting two on the east, and one at the western extremity, beyond the limits of Perthshire.' P. 453.

The particular description is equally animated and precise. It reflects the highest credit on the taste, abilities, and judgement of Dr. Robertson. The account of the moss of Kincardine, and the methods adopted for reclaiming it, are well described; and many useful hints may be collected from Mr. Smyth's method of cultivating waste land. Some other valuable papers are added in the appendix, among which we may particularly notice Mr. Haldane's attempts to introduce the fine-wooled sheep, and the description of various remains of antiquity in this county.

The arrangement of the General View before us is the same with the reports of other counties; but more minute, miscellaneous, and instructive. What however constitutes the chief merit of the work to the reader, renders it impossible for us to convey an adequate idea of it. We shall, nevertheless, mention the different heads, with a few remarks, as they occur.

Of the state of property we can give no discriminate account;

Digitized by Google

but shall select the pleasing picture of Scottish manners from the introduction.

'The noblemen have large estates; which enable them to support their dignity with splendor, and to perpetuate the hospitality of their ancestors. Many of the gentlemen have independent fortunes, gratifying a taste for elegance suited to their improved ideas and their rank in life. There are few or no counties in Scotland where the commoners are more distinguished by their education, their manners, their enlarged views, the love of their country, and the extent of their property. Those among them, who are not engaged in the arduous departments of government, of law, or military affairs, live for the most part upon their estates, have a pleasure in embellishing their residence, and ornamenting the country around them. Not a few of them superintend the improvements of their own tenants; and, by condescending to reason with the country people, remove their prejudices against new modes of culture, teach them to discern their true interest, acquire their confidence and esteem, and are regarded as the fathers and friends of every person within their domains. While the supercilious landlord, who, with an air of disdain, keeps his tenants at a distance, or does not know them at all, scarcely receives the cold salute and ceremonious bow which is due to rank; he who bends a little, and exchanges a few kind expressions, receives the respectful salutation of esteem, accompanied with the affectionate language of gratitude. The most beloved and the most successful generals were those who knew their soldiers personally. No man is less dignified for being loved; and it lessens no man's consequence in the world to have the confidence of those around him. Hence the generality of proprietors, who are resident on their estates, lead their tenants by the hand in the road of improvement and of wealth; and have found the true secret of promoting their own interest while they promote the interest of their people.

'Under the feudal system the management of estates would be but little attended to: a property acquired by force of arms must be kept possession of by the sword. It was therefore more necessary to train the tenantry to war than to rural improvements.

'On the large estates there was an officer next in authority to the proprietor himself, who, under the name of chamberlain, was at once minister, general, and manager of the estate. The farms were divided and subdivided to make room for a greater number of soldiers, and were frittered down into these small holdings in which they are now found; in which circumstances no solid improvement could ever be expected to take place.' P. 37.

The division of property, where there are no dykes, is simple and curious. It is by 'wind and water;' that is, the windward or leeward side of a hill, more accurately distinguished by the course which the rain takes when falling. The buildings and cottages are increasing in number and convenience: they do not yet rise to elegance. The farms are large, the rents augmenting, and the whole county greatly improving. Dr. Robert-

Digitized by Google

son thinks large farms most conducive to the profits and comforts of the agriculturist. We have lately advanced the same opinion. Neither poor's-rates nor tithes are known in Scotland. The means by which the ministers are supported, and the poor fed, are sufficiently known. Leases are not common; and the want of an extensive interest, together with a dependence on the caprice of the landlord, retards improvements. The profits of farming however, as here stated, seem not to be inconsiderable; and the implements of husbandry improve with the profits and the increasing scale of agricultural attempts. Inclosing and planting appear to have been encouraged at a very early period, and each has lately been much extended. We strongly suspect that what are called ridges in the following passage are natural appearances: yet the author's reflexions are judicious, and the passage itself is curious.

'We meet with evident vestiges of ridges in the higher regions of the mountains, beyond all these fences, where the land has never been inclosed. These inhospitable spots never could have been turned up in the ordinary circumstances of the country. What dire necessity could have compelled men to plough such land? And how could grain come to maturity in such a climate? Either the first inhabitants of the country found the valleys so much infested with wild beasts, that they thought it safest to fix their residence on the mountains; and the country was so much wooded, that it was warmer than at present: or, during the successful campaigns of Agricola in this country, it is very likely that the Caledonians were compelled to retreat from the more fertile to the more barren parts of Scotland. The inhabitants flocked to their fastnesses, where their enemies durst not follow them. The population was in this event crowded beyond what the usual produce of the country in these places could support. The pressure of their situation urged them to have recourse to the soil of the mountains, by a temporary tillage, to prevent famine. What noble heroism, to run the risk of wanting subsistence, rather than to live in plenty, under the Romans, with the loss of liberty!

'These remarks are applicable to the general state of the Highlands at a very early period: the features of all the mountainous parts of North-Britain are in that respect much the same; and excepting in the vicinity of the mansions of great proprietors, things remained for several centuries in this situation. Before the union, the trade of every man was war; and there was little leisure and no inclination to inclose or cultivate the ground. Within the period of half a century inclosing has made rapid progress in this country, especially during the last thirty years, and the ardor with which this and every other species of cultivation is carried on in our time promises to be lasting and highly beneficial to all ranks of men.' p. 109.

Folding sheep on the mountains destroys very sensibly the heath; but it has less effect on the valleys, as the plant is probably there stronger and more hardy. Planting most certainly

Digitized by Google

shelters the crop and the habitations. Our author has witnessed evident improvements in Perthshire from this source.—The chapter on arable lands is a very interesting one, and contains a great variety of useful information with respect to crops of almost every different kind. To give even the outline of the whole would be too extensive, and not particularly valuable: the entire subject must be read together. To prevent the fly in turnips, it is recommended to sow some new with the old seed. The former springs most rapidly; and, when devoured, the fly seeks some other crop, and the latter seed springs unmolested. The cheapness of turnip-seed renders this no very expensive method. The gradual spread of information towards the Highlands affords a pleasing prospect; and the Highland farming is not uninteresting. Our author's observations on the management of grass land, and the different grasses, afforded us much satisfaction. Indeed, there is no subject apparently so barren that he does not enliven and enrich by new or important remarks. The orchards and gardens, the woods and plantations, are in a thriving state, and promise to arrive gradually at some perfection, though in a high latitude, and in a less genial situation. All the variety of forest trees flourish in this county, but particularly larches. The plantations of oaks are also numerous.—In the chapter of wastes and moors we find some good directions for reclaiming mosses, and some strong arguments in favour of plantations. Scotland was certainly at one period covered with woods.

Among the improvements in Perthshire, draining, embanking, trenching, manuring, and watering, hold distinguished places. Our intelligent author thinks with us respecting paring and burning. The manures chiefly employed are dung, marl, and lime; and Dr. Robertson seems to be of opinion, that pulverised lime-stone would succeed as well as calcined, but not so quickly, notwithstanding its effects are seemingly more lasting. The following facts, though not new, are placed in so interesting a light that we have been tempted to select them, with the author's truly judicious and philosophical conclusion.

'There is nothing more common, and perhaps few things more difficult to be accounted for, than when lime is spread on short heath, or other barren ground which has a dry bottom, to see white clover and daisies rising spontaneously and plentifully, the second or third spring thereafter, where not a vestige of either, nor even a blade of grass, was to be seen before.

'The seeds of some plants have wings, and when fully ripe they spread their sails to the wind; the seeds of others have long beards, which make them buoyant, and raise them aloft in the air, in quest of a new settlement: but it is vain to suppose that the heavy globular seeds of clover and daisies, without beard or wings, are wafted about by the winds; it is also absurd to say, that they are brought

Digitized by Google

there in the lime, after it has been burnt; and it is equally so, to allege that they are deposited from the stomachs of birds, without having been digested, as stone-seeds sometimes are, or that birds would pitch upon the very spot, where lime or other enriching manure had been spread, to deposit there the white clover and daisy seeds in such quantities, and in no other place near it, nor at any former time.

'Suppose a field to be well drained, and, in consequence of that operation, to carry the richest and finest grasses. If any one of the drains shall stop, rushes, sprits, and other coarse grass peculiar to spouty land, will grow apace. Why does this coarse grass grow only at the drain that has ceased to flow, where the land is overcharged with water? Why does not the same grass appear in the tract of the other drains, where the water is carried off? Or if the seeds of these coarse grasses are sown by birds, why are they not sown in dry land, which birds frequent, rather than in a bog, where few of them alight? Unless one can give a satisfactory answer to these difficulties, the sowing of clover and daisies, of sprits and rushes, and of every other species of grass, by birds, must be given up.

'Lastly, it is altogether unphilosophical, and contrary to common sense, to have recourse to the doctrine of equivocal generation, by imagining that any thing can produce itself, or that the seed of grasses can be produced without a cause. This doctrine is universally exploded. No man will hold it, who does not wish to be thought to have bid adieu to his understanding.—Many difficulties occur relative to the generation of animals as well as plants; but to those my subject does not lead me. We are surrounded with mysteries on every hand; and many things both in the material and intellectual world appear inexplicable to us, owing to the shallowness of our understanding. The ways and the works of God are dark and intricate, and we often attempt to investigate them in vain. Our most profound researches are frequently nothing better than guessing at the causes of the phænomena that appear in the course of providence. There is no harm in these conjectures, if we hold them with humility.—Perhaps the seeds of all plants were created at the same time with the earth itself, and deposited in the ground, to remain there, until they are called forth by that degree of fecundity in the soil, and warmth in the sun, together with the moisture and exposure, and other circumstances which correspond to their nature.' P. 288.

The breed of cattle in Perthshire is bad; but superior kinds are daily introduced. The breed of goats is discouraged, as these animals destroy the young trees; and sheep are found to be more profitable. The flocks of sheep are now very numerous, and of the best stocks. They are in general the black-faced kind from the south. The numbers do not seem to have hitherto diminished that of black cattle; for many reasons assigned by our author: but he seems to think that the period is not very distant when this effect will appear; for the sheep system is gradually gaining ground. Yet there are many arguments which show that the increasing fertility of Scotland, and the

Digitized by Google

improving climate, may render the country capable of supporting both the numerous flocks of sheep and the usual herds of cattle. The remarks on the diseases of sheep seem to be valuable, and the result of real observation. The other kinds of live stock afford no very particular subject of remark. Pigeons our author thinks so voracious as to be a national injury; and computes, from a rough calculation, that the pigeons in Great Britain devour as much grain as would support 120,000 of the human species. Bees, on the contrary, devour nothing that can be employed for the use of man; and their production is wholly gain.

Under the chapter of 'rural œconomy' our author gives a pleasing picture of the ancient mode of life of the shepherds of this county, but, we fear, has decorated it with colours too delusive. The price of labour is doubled within about twenty years: but this he considers as no peculiar inconvenience, since every thing rises in proportion, and finds its level. Provisions are growing dearer, but are still what would in England be called very cheap. The arguments adduced to support the predilection for the arable system in this county merit attention; and those which relate to distillation, especially the fraudulent practice, are certainly very judicious.

What relates to roads and canals, fairs and markets, is chiefly of local importance; but we observe with satisfaction the progressive improvements in the two former branches of rural œconomy. The exports of this county are chiefly agricultural. There seems to be no manufactured wool, except in shawls. Flax and cotton afford some varieties of manufacture. The whole trade is rapidly augmenting. The quantity of salmons taken and exported from Loch Tay appears on the contrary to be decreasing—a circumstance more to be regretted, since the salmon of this loch is of a very superior flavour.

The population is certainly on the whole increased, though, by inclosing and large farms, it is allowed to have diminished in some districts. This is, however, fully compensated by the enlargement of towns and villages. The obstacles to improvement are chiefly of local importance; and even to explain the meaning of some of these would not be an easy task. The miscellaneous observations, including the means of amelioration, are highly valuable, but chiefly important to the inhabitants*. On the whole, we have read this work with great pleasure. The information is in general interesting: the reflexions interspersed

* We may just observe, that in the Appendix we find 'Hiers Carns' interpreted 'Heros Cairns.' If this be correct, may it not assist in deciphering a disputed and almost unintelligible passage in the Merry Wives of Windsor, where mine host says —'Will you go on Heres?'—Will you go on Heros?—an expression very suitable to the bombastic style of *this* Hero of the garter. Rev.

Digitized by Google

show the author to possess taste, learning, and judgement. We have seen no agricultural report that, in all these respects, exceeds, or perhaps equals, the present volume.

ART. XII.—*Poems by William Boscawen, Esq.* 12*mo.* Stockdale. 1801.

THESE poems consist of elegies, odes, heroic epistles, and occasional copies of verses. Though we do not discover in them many of the more daring flights of genius, they have not offended us by instances either of affectation or carelessness. Mr. Boscawen's versification is melodious and easy; and, what is more to his credit, the whole breathes benevolence of heart and purity of moral principle. His elegies appear to us—but perhaps it is the most difficult species of minor poetry—to be his least successful efforts. His odes possess more merit. They often exhibit in their diction much of the majesty and characteristic grace of this species of composition. We shall select, in proof of our assertion, the second Ode, written for the Anniversary Meeting of the Subscribers to the Literary Fund, April 21st, 1795.

'Ye sacred Bards of elder time,
Whose genius breath'd celestial fire!
Whose heartfelt rapture soar'd in songs sublime!
Whose magic fingers swept the sounding lyre!
Who, proud th' heroic chief to crown,
Wove the bright chaplet of renown,
Or told in soft and melting strains
The fond despairing lover's pains;
Or, with your animating breath,
Kindled the patriot's generous zeal,
And bade him, for his country's weal,
Brave the stern tyrant's power, and smile in death!

'Blest spirits! from your starry spheres,
Where, clad in robes of sapphire hue,
Ye sit enthron'd, oh deign to view
This flow of harmony divine,
This social homage to the nine,
Which sweet Benevolence endears!
And, while the voice of Pity floats
In soft, melodious, thrilling notes,
Wake Inspiration's loftier strain!
Wake the bright hopes of happier days,
When Poetry again shall raise
Her genuine song, and heaven-born genius reign!

Digitized by Google

'Oh! mark the glories of that age
Which lives in Homer's matchless page!
When kings, when heroes could admire
The glowing verse, th' enraptur'd lyre.
High on a throne of silver placed,
Their festive halls the poet graced;
And when he tower'd on Fancy's wing,
And when his touch awak'd the string,
What sympathetic hearts around
Beat to th' inspiring martial sound!
Again he bade the battle bleed,
And pour'd swift vengeance on the foe;
While mem'ry of each glorious deed
Kindled ecstatic valour's glow.
Each warrior chief, with fond regard
Cherish'd the soul-inspiring bard;
Each felt, with transport felt, his name
Snatch'd from oblivion's power, and stamp'd with deathless fame.

'Speak, gentle Muse, thy conscious pride!
Record the trophies of thy sway,
When, with impetuous foaming tide,
The mighty Theban's deep-ton'd lay
Rush'd, like a torrent, from the mountain's side.
Th' Olympic champion's far-fam'd deeds,
The hardy wrestler, and victorious steeds,
His verse adorn'd with bright renown,
Beyond the statue, or the laurel crown:
At solemn feasts he shar'd
The sacred portion for the Gods prepar'd:
In after ages, lov'd, ador'd,
His awful name
Alone could stay the hostile flame,
Quell the fierce victor's rage, avert his vengeful sword.

'What triumphs, queen of song, were thine,
When Rome, in boundless rule enthron'd,
Proud Rome, thy gentle empire own'd,
Own'd the mild lustre of thy charms,
Resign'd for peaceful arts her arms,
And lov'd thy sons, ador'd thy shrine!
Th' imperial master of mankind,
To soft humanity refin'd,
Heard the majestic Mantuan lay,
Delighted heard th' Ausonian lyre
Mild counsels breathe, just thoughts inspire,
And felt the Muse's power that harmoniz'd his sway.

'Say, Britain, when, in days of yore,
Thy sons 'gainst Rome's invading band
Stood dauntless on thy sea-girt shore,
Stern guardians of their native land,

Digitized by Google

And on the deep-wedg'd ranks of war
Impetuous whirl'd the scythed car,
What power their generous valour fir'd?
The bard, the sacred bard, inspir'd!
From oak-crown'd glades,
From mystic shades,
Where late he chaunted meek Religion's strain,
Avenger of his country's wrongs,
With harp attun'd to martial songs,
He rush'd indignant to th'embattled plain.
Nor less his voice, 'midst faction's rage,
Could Discord, baleful fiend! assuage,
The warrior's madd'ning steel arrest,
And charm to peace his savage breast.
Taught by his lore in social bands to join,
All lov'd the gentle bard, all bless'd the song divine.

'But where, ah where! in later days,
The bright reward, the generous praise,
That once adorn'd the tuneful train?
The rev'rence genius could command,
When, cherish'd by a grateful land,
It pour'd a free and virtuous strain?
Far from the mansions of the great,
Where pride maintains its sullen state,
Where, sunk in ease, unfeeling lux'ry lies,
Repell'd, the Muse's offspring flies.
What fiends attend his steps forlorn!
Gaunt Poverty, with feeble cries,
And wan Disease, and taunting Scorn!
These, these, arrest each bolder flight;
Or, should his fancy nobly dare,
Base Av'rice stints the hard-earn'd mite,
Drives him once more to want, and bids him clasp Despair.

'Behold, in Mis'ry's drear abode,
A care-worn wretch expire!
'Tis he! the Bard whose fancy glow'd
With soft yet vivid fire;
Who in the tend'rest notes of woe
Bade Belvidera's sorrows flow;
Whose powerful Muse, beyond controul,
Could wring, could agonise the soul!—
And mark that youth with aspect wild!
Chill Penury's devoted child;
Who, feigning a rude antique strain,
Woo'd Fortune's smile, but woo'd in vain:
Absorb'd in deep despair he lies;
He pines, he sinks, he dies!
Ill-fated youth! with fost'ring ray
Had kind Protection blest thy lay,

Digitized by Google

And taught the path to well-earn'd fame,
Britain perchance had gloried in thy name,
Had hail'd thee prosp'rous and renown'd,
By every Muse inspir'd, with every virtue crown'd.

'Ah! then, celestial Muse descend!
The glories of thy reign renew:
Bright Honour's source, fair Virtue's friend,
Smile on the liberal chosen few!
Congenial hearts alike inspire
Thy genuine sons to cherish and admire:
Exalt thy vot'ry's purer mind
Above the vulgar joys that charm mankind:
Awake the sympathetic glow!
Bid the rich stream of bounty flow!
Again bid drooping genius rise,
Assert its long lost rights, and claim its native skies!' p. 30.

The foregoing poem has occupied so considerable a portion of our journal, that we cannot allow any space for farther extracts. In his imitations of Horace Mr. B. is often happy; and 'The Progress of Satire' contains much just discrimination, conveyed in flowing and pointed numbers. His character of a work which lately made a wonderful noise in the literary and political world—which was much talked of, but little read—is at once candid and severe. We had some intention of quoting the passage to which we allude; but the consideration of the old maxim, *De mortuis*, &c. has influenced our forbearance.

ART. XIII.—*Sermons, on various Subjects; by John Bidlake, B.A. Vol. II**. 8vo. 6s. *Boards.* Murray *and* Highley.

THERE is a fund of good sense in these sermons, mixed with a considerable degree of piety and enlarged views of religion. Many of the subjects are local; but excellent lessons of instruction are derived from them. The melancholy events which have of late distressed the human race, and the repugnance to religion of every kind in a neighbouring nation, are deeply felt by the writer. But, with due confidence in the Creator of the World, who can draw good out of evil, he considers the unhappy instruments of this evil as destined to pave the way for a train of events which they neither have desired nor could possibly foresee. In our own kingdom, from the growing attachment to popery, so lamentably perceived in many persons whose compassion for the distressed has led them to compassion for their follies and vicious superstitions, the following remarks cannot be too much attended to by those who still retain a regard to the principles of the Protestant religion.

* See our 14th vol. New Arr. p. 281.

Digitized by Google

'Much has been said of the violence which has been offered to religion in the neighbouring state. From scenes of bloodshed and devastation the feeling mind naturally turns with horror and disgust. But it must be remembered, that the religion which has been overthrown in the country of the enemy, was a monster of superstition, and the parent of cruel and unrelenting persecution. While we have to lament the tyranny which effected its destruction, as Protestants we must mourn more for the blood that has been shed, than for the system which its fall has shaken. Strange as it may seem, there is no species of cruelty so unfeeling, none so deliberately and systematically barbarous, as religious enthusiasm. For when the mind is inflamed by this dreadful phrensy, all the avenues of compassion are closed, and every sense of feeling deadened. The ties of nature are disregarded, if not totally dissolved; and the cries of distress, which are by nature so tuned to the correspondent feelings of humanity, as to make even the hardened nerve vibrate, has no tone that can awaken sympathy in the fanatical assassin. When once the deluded wretch fondly imagines that he is employed as the immediate agent of God, his mistaken zeal totally changes his former habits. In fury he exceeds the brute; but with this unhappy difference, that his thirst of blood is never satisfied. The whole history of the church of Rome puts this beyond a doubt; and we must not forget that this sanguinary bigotry has formerly distracted our own country with persecution, and was unfavourable to the interests of the present reigning family. Many periods of our history are marked by its cruel spirit; and we shudder as we read those pages which recount the sufferings of numerous and innocent martyrs. Europe, nay every quarter of the globe, has felt this most dreadful scourge. Again, on a late melancholy event, it has appeared in all the horrors of deliberate and systematic massacre. If tired of such a religion, intolerant and persecuting in its principles; if tired of the vain and meretricious worship, which mocked the common sense of mankind, our volatile neighbours have run into the wild excesses of impiety, and have entertained the foolish expectation of conducting the affairs of life and governing mankind without religion; if metaphysical philosophy has induced them to pursue vain deceits, and to make the dangerous experiment of placing human wisdom in the room of divine; let us hope that the wise Providence, who can bid the mental storm be calm, and direct the evil counsels of men to the production of good, will again, as he did on Sinai, send forth his word from amidst clouds and tempests. Yes, from the ashes of superstition, a rational and a benevolent religion may arise. Such must at length prevail: it is indispensable to our present as well as future happiness. In the mean time *let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering*. For every nation will discover, and every individual must have felt, in his own experience, that only piety can produce solid and permanent consolation. While the soul wanders from deceit to deceit, like the bird first enlarged from the ark, in every excursion it will seek in vain for a resting place; and after it has tasted of all that the world has to give, and made every trial for itself, will find that it must return to seek its happiness in God.' p. 48.

Digitized by Google

From this extract our readers will form their opinion of the author's style, which is generally uniform, calm, and perspicuous. His discourses are chiefly of a moral tendency; and, in many instances, very apt allusions are made to the objects of nature; and lessons of instruction are derived from history, profane as well as sacred. It is evident that examples of the former kind cannot be understood by a mixed audience; and as the Scriptures will always afford them in sufficient abundance, the attempt to derive aid from profane history is, to say the least of it, superfluous.

ART. XIV.—*New Observations concerning the Inflections of Light, accompanying those of Newton, but differing from his, and appearing to lead to a Change of his Theory of Light and Colours.* 8vo. 2*s.* 6*d.* *Boards.* Cadell *and* Davies.

IT is not from this subject's having failed to claim much of our attention, nor from the author's choosing to remain unknown, that these observations have been long unnoticed. In fact, we wished to bring his work to an undivided attention, an unruffled mind; and, though we cannot yet boast of these attainments, we can delay no longer the payment of the tribute of investigation and applause which our author's talents so well deserve.

In examining and repeating Newton's experiments with other views, we were surprised at some apparent errors and misrepresentations, as we thought them, of appearances, and were compelled to recollect, in justice to the memory of that truly excellent philosopher, his own apology for their imperfections. He considered his experiments as first attempts only: posterity, dazzled by his reputation, has unfortunately looked at the Optics as a perfect work, and, with a very few exceptions, resigned in despair all hopes of improving the science. The mechanical philosophy of the age of Newton was the source of some of his errors in reasoning, and of his misconception of some of the phænomena. While he represented rays of light by lines, it was difficult to divest himself of the geometrical idea of a line; nor, when an impulse was given, was it easy to suppose the direction changed, without some impediment or cause of change. We now begin to perceive all the difficulties and inconveniences of extending the mechanical philosophy beyond its proper sphere, and to distrust the universality of axioms which were once supposed indisputable. In fact, the similarity of the term led philosophers to confound the *philosophical* axiom with the mathematical. The latter is a proposition that *cannot* be otherwise; the former, one which has not hitherto been proved untrue. The optical axioms are philosophical only.

Digitized by Google

The first part of this author's inquiries relates to the size of the shadows of objects when the light of the sun passes through a small hole, and is afterwards intercepted by an opaque body. Our author, in repeating the experiment, found the light much more divergent than if it had passed from the hole in strait lines, and more dilated than it ought to be by the penumbral light of the solar disc. This he seems to ascribe to the attraction of the edges of the aperture: but the penumbral light of the sun itself requires some explanation, and must be attributed to the mutual repulsion of the particles of light, when not hindered by the lateral pressure of light around. We must however follow our author, and shall describe the other changes in the condition of the ray in his own words, with his explanation.

'The light of this beam was very equally diffused, and almost uniformly dense in all its internal central parts, being also tolerably well defined on its external parts or edges, in a manner very different from what it ought to have been by the penumbral light alone. But the appearances were somewhat different, with holes of different dimensions.

'With a hole one-tenth of an inch wide, or wider, the centre of the beam was composed of the dense direct light of the sun, unchanged in its passage; but farther therefrom, towards the borders of the beam, this light began to decrease in density, and gradually decayed more and more in the approaches nearer and nearer to the borders, becoming at last considerably diluted and evanescent, and rendering the edge of the beam ill-defined and indistinct.

'With a smaller hole than the last, the central dense light entirely disappeared; and, with a hole yet smaller than this, of the dimensions of the first before-mentioned hole, the external edges of the beam became more condensed and better defined, and the whole beam of light became, as before described, of more uniform density in all its parts. With a hole smaller than any of the foregoing, about the hundredth part of an inch wide, various colours began to appear in the beam, the central parts of which became now, in their turn, more diluted than the rest, the external parts denser than these, and bordered with tinges of yellow and red light on the very edge or margin of the beam.

'All these appearances are to be ascribed to the same attractions of the edges of the holes, and of the different parts of the edges. These, when the hole is large, affect only the parts of the light passing nearest to them; when the hole is reduced, they attract and dilate the whole of the passing light; when the hole is yet more considerably diminished, as in the first part of this observation, they act not only each part upon the light passing nearest to each, but each part also upon the light passing nearest to each opposite part of the edge, condensing by diminishing the attraction and diffusion of the light on the edges of the beam, and rendering the whole more equably and uniformly divergent; and these at last, when the hole is in its most reduced state of about a hundredth part of an inch wide, by their various actions produce colours in the passing light in the manner and upon the principles hereafter to be explained.

Digitized by Google

'In the beam of solar light passed through the small hole, one fiftieth part of an inch wide, I observed the shadows of very slender bodies, pins, needles, straws, hairs, to be considerably broader, as they ought to be in this divergent light, than the bodies themselves; but as each of these bodies exercises upon the light passing by it the same attractions by which the light is bent in passing through the hole, I concluded that a part of the light would be in every case bent, in passing by, towards the body into the shadow, and illuminate it and diminish its breadth. In this conclusion I was confirmed by the variations of dimensions of the shadows measured by Newton, and by the differences of proportion he observed to prevail in their breadths with respect to the distances of observation from the hole.' P. 8.

These appearances are, we know, related with accuracy; but we have always found it very difficult to explain them. In the smallest hole of one-hundredth part of an inch, the light seems to have been wholly attracted by the edges, so as to leave a darker part in the centre—and we shall find some collateral facts to support this idea; and it is this very attenuated light that becomes coloured when seen against the darker air. In general, it must be observed that the opaque body attracts the light, and turns it in a direction towards itself: thus the light becomes more divergent when passing through the hole, and shadows become smaller than from the diverging rays they otherwise would be.

Our author's account of the fringes of colours differs greatly from that of sir Isaac Newton. We shall select the comparative view.

'THE NEWTONIAN FRINGES and COLOURS.	'THE OBSERVED FRINGES and COLOURS.
Shadow	Black
Violet	Greyish black
Indigo	Greyish blue
Pale blue	White
Green	Yellow
Yellow	Red
Red	Dark interval
Blue	Diluted violet
Yellow	Blue
Red	Diluted green
Pale blue	Yellow
Pale yellow	Red
Red.	Green
	Diluted yellow
	Red
	Diluted green
	Red
	White
	Diluted red
	White light.' P. 26.

Digitized by Google

On this subject we shall only remark, with our author, that the order is variable, and that the fringes are chiefly conspicuous when the light is thrown obliquely, and of course greatly expanded. The proportions of their breadth also differ considerably in different circumstances; so that the regular progression pointed out by sir Isaac Newton is not so constant as to support any analogy. Our author's observation on the shadow also merits particular notice.

'When the distance of observation, from the hair under the circumstances of the experiment in observation β, was very small, and before the first bright streak of light began to appear, the shadow of the hair was distinct and well defined, and of intense blackness. At a greater distance, this shadow appeared to be divided by a parallel line of light, throughout its whole length, into two parts, and resembled a double shadow, or the shadows of two hairs, but was by no means of the same degree of blackness as was the single shadow observed close to the hair. At still greater distances it increased in breadth and diminished in blackness, whilst the transverse dimensions of the dividing line of light increased at the same time, until, at a considerable distance from the hair, this intermediate band or line of light began to put on the appearance of colours on its edges, and to assume, on both sides externally, casts of yellowish and reddish light. By further increase of distance, this apparent shadow, these dark intervals, became more diluted, and of nearly the same colour throughout, the line of light more and more diffused, and was at last extinguished by the extreme diffusion and ultimate invisibility of the light that produced it.' P. 32.

The theory of these appearances, which may in a great degree be imitated by a candle, is not very difficult. In the first instance only, near to the hair, is the shadow truly such. At a greater distance the inflected rays enlighten a little the part darkened, by intercepting the direct light; and when these inflected rays meet in the centre, that part becomes so luminous as to give the appearance of real light by comparison with the darker margins. We have however found that this is only *comparatively* real light.

'Close to the body, the shadow of the hair, and the whole of the passing light, apparently unchanged, may be observed. Further therefrom, that part of the light which constitutes the first fringe begins to put on a considerable brightness, and to be separated from the rest of the light by a dark line of shade. Further, and further still from the hair, the second and third fringes begin also to appear, together with the first, in the form of white streaks of light, separated by dark intervals. At greater distances, these breadths of white light begin to exhibit colours at their edges; and at distances yet greater than these, or by considerable obliquities of reception, they are decomposed and distributed into the three first fringes of the preceding observation β.

'Adjacent to these three, in a state of great dilution, approaching

Digitized by Google

to evanescence, are the subsequent fringes of the same observation; and adjacent to these last fringes, to some distance from them, the nearest light is divided into alternate streaks of white light and shade, or luminous and dark intervals, which, at the first and nearest distances being under the circumstances of this observation too small and too little separated for perception, and afterwards running into one another and mixing their colours, put on the appearance of white light, and can no longer be distinguished therefrom, up to the point where, by increased distance, the action of the hair ceases altogether on the passing light.' P. 34.

With respect to the production of these fringes, we have as yet made no advances. The language which attributes them to the decomposition of light, or rather to the separation of bundles of luminous rays, must be rejected, as too strictly mechanical. We see them closely connected with the attenuation of light. The breadths of these fringes, and their dark intervals, we have said, are not regular and constant. Our author supposes, that, in measuring these, Newton had the coloured rings, observed in other experiments, in view; but that he has not pursued the analogies, as the result would have militated against his principles for explaining the phænomena of light.

The author next proceeds to the observations on the fringes of colours produced by light passing over the edge of a knife. These are connected intimately with the former subject; but the particular explanation so closely depends on the diagrams, as to be scarcely intelligible without them. We shall add, however, the principle on which all these changes are produced, in our author's own words.

'The white rays of light are bent in passing by the side, edge, or angle of any thin plate or body, into lines of direction, deviating from their original course towards the body.

'The rays of light are not only so bent, they are also distributed or divided into different rays of different colours, in angles of dispersion, greater as the distances are less, and less as the distances are greater, in such a manner, that, of different colours at the same distance, the purples, blues, greens, yellows, and reds, are bent towards the body; the purples most, each of the others in due succession less, and the reds least, according to the order of their statement; and of colours of the same sorts at different distances, the nearer more than the more remote, and the more remote less than the nearer. So various however are the bendings of different colours at different distances, that in certain distinct portions of light, and at different distances of observation, the more remote and the nearer rays of different colours contained within each of these portions or divisions of the light become variously intermingled with each other, and, by their various intermixtures form each of these divisions into parti-coloured fringes; whilst the rays of different divisions never mixing with those of other divisions, the intervals of the divisions are preserved, and become the dark intervals which separate the fringes.

Digitized by Google

'Wherever the divergency of a beam of light is such, that by inflection a nearer red is less bent than all the other equidistant or nearer adjoining coloured rays, and more bent than all the other more remote but adjacent rays; and also a further purple is more bent than all the other equidistant or more remote coloured rays, and less bent than all the other nearer adjoining rays; there a dark interval will be produced, on the side of which, nearest to the body, the reds will appear; and on the side most remote, the purples and blues; and wherever two or more such intervals are produced, they include between them a fringe or fringes of various breadths and colours, depending upon the relations between the dispersions and bendings of the rays by the inflecting body and the original divergency of the beam, the purples and blues nearest, the reds furthest from the body.' P. 47.

The experiments of light passing through an aperture formed by the parallel edges of two knives afforded appearances very analogous to those observed by successively diminishing the aperture through which the beam was transmitted in the first experiments; but differing in some respects, as may easily be supposed, by the variation of circumstances and situation. The appearances are detailed with great minuteness, and elude every attempt to describe them in shorter words than those of the author. The experiments on the coloured fringes formed by the edges of two knives meeting at an angle are still more difficult to abridge. The appearances, we have reason to think, are described very correctly; but the author's account of them is so concise, and so closely compacted, that to those only who, like ourselves, have been engaged in similar observations, will it perhaps be intelligible.

Our author next notices the fringes produced in shadows of light, coloured in consequence of passing through a prism, and finds that the same circumstances and the same laws influence the coloured light, which affected the ray previous to its becoming coloured.

'It is plain therefore from the circumstances of this, and of all the foregoing observations, that the phænomena of the inflections of light are the consequences of the various bendings, separations, and changes produced in each of the separate portions of a beam of white light passing between the parts and particles of a transparent medium, by the action or attraction of the edge, angle, or side of an approaching body; each of these portions being variously bent and separated into other portions of differently-coloured lights, each of which being changed from and receiving a constitution or modification different from that of all the others, and from that of the original portion out of which it was derived, retains that constitution or modification permanently, until it be again re-united into the same, or a similar portion of white light, among the properties of which constitution or modification it is one; that passing at the same distance with rays of other colours from and by the edge of an in-

Digitized by Google

flecting body, it is constantly bent at angles of deviation different from those of all other colours; the purples most; the blues less than the purples; the yellows, greens, and reds, successively less and less, according to the order of their specification.

'Such a state and condition, and such changes of light, are absolutely necessary for the existence and regular formation, under different circumstances, of the fringes; they are conformable to the general nature and principles of things, and, being required, are established by the phænomena; and being established by, explain them.

'That a beam of white light is composed of rays of different sorts, originally and always distinct, and of various colours, which are only separated from one another, is an hypothesis inconsistent with all the phænomena of inflections.

'Indeed the very circumstance of the distribution of white light into colours, which admit of degrees and not of divisions, and the difficulty of conceiving in what manner, whether of particular arrangement, or undistinguished mixture, they must be re-united to form white, without conceiving or suspecting that differences might and, it would seem, ought to arise of colours from various orders or modes of combination, would lead us to infer the action of a principle which changes and modifies at the same time that it separates every portion of the white light, and requires an actual restoration of all things to the same original, or exactly similar circumstances of condition for its re-production.' P. 114.

This opinion we shall not be expected to controvert, as we have, partly from similar views, and partly from other considerations, adopted no very different sentiments, which we have often mentioned in this journal. Indeed we have advanced farther, and thought that light was coloured only in consequence of its attenuation. Could we have gone more at length into our author's experiments, we might have pointed out additional circumstances which support this doctrine, while some which seem to militate against it may probably admit of an explanation different from that which the author appears to have favoured. While he rejects the Newtonian theory, he is not however very clearly intelligible in that which should supply its place.

'If the rays be supposed to be confusedly mixed in the white light, no regular formation of the fringes can be expected to be produced from amidst such disorder; nor will these difficulties be removed by conceiving every beam of white light to be again divisible into smaller portions or beams of white light composed of all the various colours; since even in these again a peculiar arrangement is required, which yet shall, as different occasions demand, differ from itself; and without a given appropriate arrangement there can be no regular formation, according to the before established principles of existence of the fringes.

'The fringes require that complete sets of the different coloured rays should issue at the same time from each interstice or point of passage of the medium, each of which rays should be equally related

Digitized by Google

as to distance from the inflecting body on one side, and the particles of the medium on the other, at the time of distribution or separation, and equally related each afterwards as to distance and attraction to all the particles of the medium on all sides, and capable of being returned again, and of being united at the same time in the same place, under the same relations—circumstances altogether inconsistent with the nature of, and impossible with originally and perpetually different, distinct, and separate rays.

'The portions of light which pass through the intervals between the particles of bodies are truly and properly the rays of light.

'Thus it is firmly established, that in the inflections of light, each white ray of passing light is separated into many distinct rays; that of these rays, at the time of separation, each sustains a change; that this change constitutes a difference of each ray from every other, and from the original white ray; that this change or modification is permanent in each ray throughout all its future course of separate propagation; that this change or modification in each distinct ray operates, during all the future propagation of the ray, its different and appropriate effects; that this change or modification produces in each ray, under the same circumstances, unequal, and, under different circumstances, equal, changes of direction of course.' P. 119.

The consequences of all these discoveries we shall not pretend to anticipate. The author promises largely, and we trust he will keep his word. We shall notice in the two subsequent articles a continuation of these inquiries.

ART. XV.—*New Observations concerning the Colours of thin transparent Bodies, showing those Phænomena to be Inflections of Light; and that the Newtonian Fits of easy Transmission and Reflection derived from them have no Existence, but fail equally in their Establishment and in their Application by Newton to account for the Colours of natural Bodies.* 8vo. 4s. *Boards.* Cadell *and* Davies.

ART. XVI.—*An Account of the Irides or Coronæ which appear around, and contiguous to, the Bodies of the Sun, Moon, and other luminous Objects.* 8vo. 1s. 6d. Cadell *and* Davies.

WE notice these tracts together because the subjects are so nearly connected; and, though last in the period of publication, we shall first consider the 'Observations,' as they tend to elucidate the 'Account of the Irides.' In our former article we have offered our author's doctrine, with the experiments in its support, and have shown that he considers light to be coloured in consequence of inflection only. Why inflection should produce colour, he has not yet shown; and we would offer to his consideration the hypothesis of its arising from attenuation.

Digitized by Google

It is no more singular that attenuated light should be coloured, and condensed light brilliantly white, than that a thin lamina of coloured glass should show its peculiar hue, and a mass of the same glass appear black. But to return to our author.

He repeated the experiment of Newton respecting the coloured circles which appear in the thin plate of air, when two polished plates of glass are pressed together; and notices many circumstances which sir Isaac had overlooked. He examines also the phænomena of the soap-bubbles which depend on a thin plate of water of varying thickness, and finds that they result, equally with the appearances specified in the former tract, from inflection only. We quote the following conclusion, lest we might misrepresent the author if we employed other words; for he alludes somewhat obscurely to opinions not yet sufficiently explained.

'According to our principles of explanation, indeed, the ordinary affections of light passing from one transparent substance to another are not considered in the passage of the light of our experiments into or out of the thin plate. The fact is, that these ordinary affections are in a great measure taken away or suspended in plates of this sort, until they arrive at a definite thickness. The relative conditions of the surrounding medium or plate, upon which alone, independent of all density, the powers of reflecting or transmitting light at the surfaces of transparent bodies depend, are so changed within these limits, that the light passes into and out of the thin plate uninterruptedly; and this change is conformable to the general principles of formation and union upon which the existence and constitution of natural bodies depend, and is derived therefrom independently of any considerations respecting light. A discovery this in itself most important, and directly leading to a true knowledge of some of the most important phænomena of light.

'Thin transparent bodies do not therefore, according to their several thicknesses, reflect from and transmit through their further surfaces the different sorts of the rays of light, but their colours are produced by the inflexions of light within them.' P. 49.

The author next proceeds to examine the Newtonian doctrine of colours, on which various superstructures have been raised. As, however, the system of fits of easy transmission and reflection is properly rejected, even sir Isaac Newton's superstructure is effectually undermined. Indeed the preliminary proposition of the different densities of the media surrounding the air is not confirmed by experiment; and all these appearances are, in every respect, similar to those produced by the knives, whose edges meet at a rectilinear angle. Even the glasses, when pressed together, do not seem to be in actual contact. The observations on Newton's doctrine of colours show much acuteness, and, so far as they are connected with his principles,

Digitized by Google

are just: but much is here alleged in opposition, which does not entirely depend on these principles; and this is of unequal value. With an alteration of language only, many of Newton's remarks on this subject will be found to be philosophical and correct. The full explanation must be referred to our author's promised publication of new discoveries; in which, so far as we can judge, he will not consider the subject in a mechanical view: but he affords very slight hints only of what we may expect.

In the Account of the Irides, our author clearly shows that these appearances are not explicable on the principle of refraction, but that, from the colours, their order and occasional inversion, they depend very certainly on the same principle which produces the fringes at the angles of the knives. He confines his present inquiry, however, to the smaller haloes and circles round the sun, and does not attend to the particular state of the atmosphere in which they are observed; viz. its being filled with vesicular vapour. Indeed we see, from attending to a sunbeam, that there are always extraneous particles enough in the atmosphere to inflect or break some of the light into colours.

ART. XVII.—*Selim and Zaida. With other Poems.* 8vo. 6*s.* *Boards.* Longman *and* Rees.

FROM the perusal of a very sensible critical dialogue prefixed to these poems, we were led to entertain an idea of the author's powers, which was by no means confirmed by the perusal of the poems themselves. The story of Selim and Zaida, which occupies more than two-thirds of the volume, opens with the amorous lamentation of the fair one, who is prevented by a tyrannic father from bestowing her hand upon the youth of her choice; and who, in the course of her poetic grief, informs her attendant Leila that her lover will come in the evening to resue her from confinement. The destined hour arrives—Zaida issues from the gate of the fortress, and is received by her faithful Selim. At this interesting crisis—

> 'Tis bliss.—Short bliss!—Lo, through the air
> The tones of Rage and Tumult swell;
> And many a torch with fiery glare
> Pours on their steps the blaze of hell.
>
> 'Dreadful in wrath the caliph comes.
> The lovers' flight has reach'd his ear.
> His dark cheek glows. His brow, in glooms
> Involv'd, declares their ruin near.' P. 27.

Digitized by Google

Selim is surrounded, and almost overpowered by the caliph's guards.

'A shout succeeds: and, quick as light,
On Selim spring the hostile band;
When, lo! a wonder meets their sight,
That stays each step, and numbs each hand.

'In Selim's grasp a sword of flame
Waves dreadful. Round it light'nings play.
The torches fade before its beam,
As moonlight dies before the day.

'Hark, 'tis a peal to rend the globe,
That bursts upon the midnight air!
What fear-proof bosom does not throb?—
Whose soul, unmov'd, th' event can dare?

'All nature is convuls'd. The main
Swells into foam, and loudly raves.
Wide through his fields the awe-struck plain
Trembles before th'approaching waves.

'Lo! that vast surge, of mountain height,
Itself a sea, frowns on the shore.
Slowly it rolls. Its course is Fate;
And Death's stern voice exalts its roar.

'One fear now yields to newer fears.
The wave's broad bosom opens wide;
And swift a flaming column rears
Its crest above the startled tide.

'It glows to heav'n. It seeks the land.
The caliph flies. Not such his haste,
Who, 'midst Arabia's wilds of sand,
Beholds the tyrant of the waste,

'The purple simoom, swiftly glide,
Thron'd on a car of burning air,—
Striking to dust the sons of pride,
Though oft the prostrate mov'd to spare:

'Or sees the hosts of sand arise,
Yet direr than the simoom's breath;—
Those giant shapes, whose course denies
All hope of flight, whose grasp is death.' P. 32.

This column contains an angel, who rescues Selim from his enemies.

'Then, on the 'lov'd of thee and heav'n,
On Zaida, all his vengeance turns.—
Before the dire command is giv'n,
His purpose in his fell eye burns.

Digitized by Google

" Seize the dishonour of her name,
And plunge her in the surging main.
Deep let his waters hide her shame,
And cleanse (if they can cleanse) her stain." P. 38.

This dire command is executed, and Zaida is plunged into the sea. During this transaction Selim is carried by the angel to the evening-star—a dull description of which occupies a considerable number of stanzas. Hither his beloved Zaida, rising from the waves, is conveyed, and the lovers are united by indissoluble bands. Selim, upon asking the ministering spirit how they have deserved his favour, is informed that their ethereal friend was once involved in rebellion against the Eternal, who doomed him to expiate his guilt by occasionally descending to earth, there to be tormented by the sons of men. While he was suffering from this decree, and was compelled, under the semblance of a poor decrepit man, to endure the revilings of the rabble, Selim interposed to protect him;—in return for which act of kindness the angel had rescued him from his imminent peril. Such is the outline of the story of Selim and Zaida; in the conduct of which the author evinces an accurate knowledge of Oriental manners and opinions, but offers few of those genuine traits of nature which interest the heart, and but little of that fertile imagination which captivates the fancy. The same remark may be applied to the remaining poems, which are not numerous. The following translation from the Italian of Lorenzo de' Medici is, however, neatly executed.

' O thou, whom queen the shores of Cyprus hail,
Leave those bright realms that own thy gentle sway;
Leave thy lov'd isle, and hither bend thy way,
Where this clear streamlet laves the flow'ry vale:
These shades invite thee; and this balmy gale,
To which the fountains murmur as they play;
And this sweet bird, who pours a melting lay,
While the woods listen to his amorous tale.

Oh, if thou com'st these lucid streams among,
Bring with thee, smiling pow'r, thy son so dear;
For here his arms, his godhead, scarce are known.
Take from Diana, take her virgin throng,
Who, wand'ring unrestrain'd, and void of fear,
His darts despise, his sovereign sway disown.' P. 87.

ART. XVIII.—*Sermons by the late Rev. William Elisha Faulkner.* 8*vo.* 10*s.* 6*d. Boards.* Rivingtons.

THESE are plain, pious, serious, practical sermons, well suited to the congregations before whom they were preached,

Digitized by Google

and better adapted to the meditations of the Sunday evening than many discourses of much greater celebrity, where language, elegance of style, arrangement, and sentiment, are the qualifications principally in vogue. The present are rather Scriptural sermons; for the writer is very liberal, and properly so, of his Scripture quotations—a practice which we cannot too much recommend to those who wish to communicate useful instruction to their parishes. A man may compose a very elegant discourse; he may be admired by hearers of education and taste; may be flattered by well-earned encomiums on his eloquence; but may yet be entitled to nothing more than the character of an orator:—the greater part of the congregation of such a preacher will be able to carry but little away with them of what they hear; and the discourse which he holds in contempt, grounded on plain sense, Scripture allusions, Scripture exhortations, Scripture threatenings, and Scripture proofs, will be found far more useful to the lower classes, and may be made to contain much of what the higher classes stand most in need of. Another striking circumstance in these discourses merits notice from the younger clergy, especially at a time when such infamous notions pass current, as that the articles of religion are merely articles of peace; and when, from the prevalence of these notions, as well as the practice of too many in the pulpit, it should seem that the Thirty-nine Articles are merely to be subscribed as a matter of form, before the bishop, and are never afterwards to be consulted or thought of by the subscriber. It has not been thus with the worthy preacher whose works are now before us: he is not ashamed either of the Scriptures or the Articles; and, so far from forgetting the latter, he refers continually to them, and thus proves to his hearers that he is, not only in name, but in deed and in truth, a minister of the church. Where so much merit prevails, we feel ourselves little inclined to criticise on the inferior parts of composition, the diction and arrangement of these discourses, which, though not cultivated quite so successfully as they ought to have been, are by no means altogether neglected. How zealous the preacher has been in inculcating divine truths, our readers may perceive from the manner in which he urges a doctrine that cannot be too much pressed on every audience; viz. reconciliation by the blood of Jesus.

'Brethren, you cannot but perceive the encouragement and consolation which our gracious Lord here designed to administer to every true penitent. Indeed this is the constant and uniform language of God our Saviour to poor, wretched, wandering sinners. Hear how it is expressed by Jeremiah, chap. iii. 21, 22. 'A voice was heard upon the high places, weeping and supplications of the children of Israel: for they have perverted their way, and they have forgotten the Lord their God. Return, ye backsliding children, and I will

Digitized by Google

heal your backslidings: behold, we come unto thee; for thou art the Lord our God." Yes, I may assure you, brethren, that God ever waits to be gracious, and that it is not his will that "any should perish, but that all should come to repentance." I am warranted therefore to invite every poor sinner, "appointed unto wrath" as a sinner against God, to come unto him and sue for mercy. There is, my dear brethren, redemption, plenteous redemption in the blood of Jesus Christ; and whosoever will, may come—(if he comes truly penitent and believing)—he may come and obtain mercy. God Almighty give some doubting soul to believe this! It is not improbable but that in this assembly there may be a person hanging down his head and saying, 'Alas, there is no hope! I have, I trust, repented of my former sins, and I am now endeavouring through grace to "bring forth fruits meet for repentance," and live to my Maker's praise; but such is the weakness and corruption of my mortal nature, and so many are my sins and temptations, that I fear and tremble for my future state.' But lift up thy head, oh poor distressed soul, and look at the compassionate Jesus suffering and dying for thy sins; and fear not, only believe. Can you so dishonour him as to think that his atonement is insufficient? Remember the verse preceding our text, and pray to God to enable you to put on "for an helmet the hope of salvation," that you may join the sweet declaration of the apostle,—"God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ."—Brethren, it is for want of more faith that so many refuse to be comforted who have been given to see the error of their ways, and made willing to be saved by the atonement of Christ. Far be it from me to speak peace to any man who wilfully continues in sin; but to the penitent sinner I would wish to open all the treasures of consolation which flow from the Redeemer's cross, that he may look forward with delight and joy to the second coming of Christ, and knowing and being assured that his complete redemption draweth nigh.' P. 406.

ART. XIX.—*Old Nick: a satirical Story. By the Author of a Piece of Family Biography, &c. 3 Vols. 12mo. 10s. 6d. sewed.* Murray *and* Highley. 1801.

IT were ungrateful to criticise severely what has much amused us, and has not failed to entertain, even when repeated. Yet we must acknowledge that the story is in general not well connected; that it is, in many parts, improbable; and that some of the most striking characters are copied from other works. We suspect, however, that this story is intended only as the vehicle of humour, and that the author considers striking situations as of more importance than originality of character. The gloomy haughtiness of Keppel, the manly dignity of Barclay, and the placid good humour of Mr. Pawlet, are well supported. Mrs. Pawlet's character is somewhat extravagant. She is the aunt of Narcissa in Roderick Random, with the edu-

Digitized by Google

cation of miss Hollybourne in the Old Manor House. The whole, as we have said, is highly entertaining; and were we to add any very important objection, it would be the hasty and unsatisfactory *dénouement*.

We were greatly pleased with the character of the faithful Gregory, whose warm passions occasionally lead him into many scrapes. We will copy, as an instance of our author's manner, what relates to one of these.

'Alas! poor Gregory, to attack thee in such a situation! Madam, she beat him with a brush, until he was obliged to cry for quarters. She then opened the door, and he was glad to sneak away disgraced and discomfited. Such, indeed, is commonly the end of most love affairs!

'But to use the words of a noble lord, "The gallant who goes about to open the trenches in this manner will generally" (like Gregory) "be soon obliged to raise the siege."

'Keppel's maid having never seen Gregory before, and he thinking it full as well, after what had happened, to retire without delivering his message, she could not identify the person who had been there, and, during his absence, committed such an alarming outrage on her virtue. However, as she had fought such a good fight, she was resolved not to lose all the advantage her reputation might derive from it; she therefore described every thing to her master on his return, as minutely as she was able. But she dwelt so much on her own *spotless virtue*, and gave such a confused account of the ravisher, that none but Keppel, who, knowing Gregory's propensity, shrewdly suspected it was him [*he*], could have gathered any thing from it.

'Telling Barclay the circumstance next day, without intimating his suspicions, our hero exclaimed, before he had half finished, "As I live, 'twas Gregory! the scoundrel!"

"I guessed as much," cried Keppel, "but we may be both wrong—I am to dine with you to day; let us devise some plan to sound him."

'This being agreed upon, at dinner, while Gregory was waiting, Barclay said in a careless manner, "Did you go to my friend's with that message yesterday, Gregory?"

"Message?" he replied, in a way as if he had forgotten it.

"Yes," added the other, "the message that I told you to deliver in the course of the evening."

"Ay," cried Gregory, not wishing to tell a lie, and catching at the word *deliver*, "I recollect now—no, sir, I did not deliver it."

'Keppel seeing they were baffled here, went on thus, addressing himself to Barclay.

"A-propos of yesterday—The strangest thing happened whilst I was out, that you ever heard. A man, I know not who, called at my chambers, and, being told that I was not at home, he rushed in, and ravished my maid-servant."

'Gregory kept rubbing the glasses, as if he meant to rub them to pieces.

Digitized by Google

"Bless me!" cried Barclay, with affected surprise: "Pray, what time of the day was it?"

"Sometime in the evening," replied the other.

"Well," said our hero, looking stedfastly at Gregory, whose confusion evidently betrayed his guilt, "I am glad, *sir*, to understand that you were not there last night."

'When we say *sir*, to a gentleman, we mean to employ an honorable term; but when we apply it to a servant, as—"So, sir," or as it is used above, it is merely an abbreviation of *sir-rah*. Gregory felt the full force of the word, and knew his master's suspicions; but not caring to acknowledge the fact, he bowed respectfully to conceal his blushes, and then turned round as if he had something to do at the sideboard.

'Keppel had made a little embellishment, but, finding that of no effect, proceeded to magnify still further.

"Now," said he to Barclay, "I would have forgiven the fellow for any thing that he did with the girl, since his passions might have run away with him, but I can never pardon his descending to steal the silver candlestick."

"If I did, I'll be damn'd!" cried Gregory, turning hastily around; "as I hope for mercy, I stole nothing!" Vol. i. p. 99.

A character, which does not often occur in novels, also interested us. It is drawn with much simplicity and truth. We mean that of *madame*, the kept-mistress of a careless man of fashion. We cannot, however, recommend this part of the story as correctly moral, or indeed proper, for a popular work.

We shall add a specimen, descriptive of the benevolent Pawlet and his pedantic wife.

'After breakfast the next morning, Mrs. Pawlet and Barclay, as before, withdrew to the library, there to pursue their respective studies. They had not been there long, however, before their curiosity was excited by a great bustle below stairs. Mrs. Pawlet consequently rang the bell, and was presently informed that the noise was occasioned by the parson, who had just learned from the gardener that his bees had swarmed. The moment Mrs. Pawlet heard this, she stalked up to the further end of the study, and whipping Virgil under her arm, bolted out of the room. Barclay, curious to see the bees swarm, followed her into the garden. Immediately Mrs. Pawlet saw the parson, she exclaimed,

"Tinnitusque cie, et Matris quate cymbala circum!"

"I have no cymbal, my dear," said the parson, "but here comes the gardener with the poker and shovel, and that must answer the purpose."

'The parson now began beating away; and the bees gradually collected together and hung from the bough of a tree. Mrs. Pawlet, having during this time seated herself on a bench, began the fourth Georgic, which she read aloud, notes and all, commenting herself also as she proceeded.—Penelope was absent.

Digitized by Google

"It was a doubt," said Mrs. Pawlet, "with Aristotle, whether the bees assembled together, on hearing the sound of brass, through fear or joy. Plato and Pliny, I find, attributed it to the latter: Varro and Columella to the former. I am with the *Attic* Moses—I am with Plato."

"Well, well, my dear," said the parson, who did not in the present case care what was the cause so that the effect was good, "I see they are very quiet now, and if I could but catch the queen-bee all would soon be right."

"Why do you call it the queen?" cried Mrs. Pawlet. "Virgil expressly says, *rex*, the king. I know the moderns, who will always be pretending to discoveries, say that they suffer but one queen-bee; and that the business of preserving the species is entirely carried on by her and the drones.—But I am shocked at this, and prefer siding with the more modest Virgil:

"——— e foliis natos et suavibus herbis
Ore legunt: ipsæ regem, par- , - - "

Here she was interrupted by the parson exclaiming,

"Bless me! there she goes again.—There—there. She has fixed upon Mrs. Pawlet, as I live! Sit still, my dear, don't move for the world, and they won't hurt you."

'Mrs. Pawlet had not time to inquire what he meant before her left shoulder and arm were entirely covered with bees. She was alarmed; but the parson entreating her not to touch them, and that then there was no danger, she sat still, perspiring through apprehension, until they were all settled. The parson now seised the queen-bee and put her into a hive, whither the swarm soon followed, and relieved Mrs. Pawlet from her fright. I should have said, however, that previous to this event she had abused the parson for taking so much pains about recovering his bees; affirming that she could produce him any quantity he pleased, according to Virgil, from the putrefied bowels of bulls. This the parson listened to with his usual temper, but still in his mind treated it with all the disrespect it deserved. However, Mrs. Pawlet declared that she would kill a bull at her own expense, to cure the scepticism she saw in her husband, notwithstanding his manner; but this late accident had given her such a surfeit of bees, that she resolved to have nothing more to do with them.

'Being clear of the swarm, she shut her Virgil, and returned with Barclay to the library, conversing on the obstinacy of those presuming moderns who prefer themselves to the sagacious ancients.' Vol. ii. p. 150.

The style and manner is too pointedly an imitation of Sterne's Sentimental Journey, and not quite free from its pruriency. Of the less exceptionable parts we shall add one other specimen.

'Now I'll give—no money, for I've got none to spare:—but I'll give the reader (if she's pretty) as many kisses as will make her lips as red as roses; or supposing the reader to be an abominable

Digitized by Google

male animal, I'll give him,—I'll give him, this old, dry, stump of a pen, as a memento. All this, I say, will I bestow on them, if they will be so kind as to tell me how Keppel acted in the affair just related, and what he did with Gregory after he had shut the door. What say you? You can't guess. Well then, miss, I shall keep my kisses and my pen to myself.

'I hate systems. The division of time is one of the most unpardonable. Why must an eternal, never-ending thing be degraded by being divided into such paltry things as years, and months, and weeks? Why are we obliged, after every seven days we live, to have Monday again? How much better would it be to let Time run on his glorious course without mincing him in this base manner? And if we must have a name for each period between the rising and the setting of the sun, let us have a new one, one we have not lived before. In a word, let us not, for heaven's sake, be tacked to *Mondays* all the time of our existence! By this grand and noble way of living, so worthy of immortal beings, we shall entirely abolish quarter-day. What can be more desirable?

'There is but one thing I will be bound to, and that is, to do nothing. Perhaps I shall not go on with my story in this volume, and perhaps I shall unravel the whole mystery in the next chapter. Come then, as we have got rid of the dull, heavy, labour of narration, at least for this chapter, let's have some fun! Ay, but I said not long ago that you should not smile for fifty pages. It was a lie. Read my preface—I promised to tell you nothing else. Let me be consistent and chaste in my conduct, madam, I beg, although you may please to be otherwise.' Vol. i. p. 59.

Much learning is scattered through these pages—and some of a recondite, or at least a less common kind, which will perhaps entertain more than the usual attendants on a circulating library. The author's reading appears to have been extensive, but desultory. We have not heard his name even conjectured, except that, in a foreign journal, these volumes are attributed to a Mr. Dubois.

Digitized by Google

MONTHLY CATALOGUE.

RELIGION.

ART. 20.—*Village Sermons; or, Twelve plain and short Discourses on the principal Doctrines of the Gospel; intended for the Use of Families, Sunday-Schools, or Companies assembled for Religious Instruction in Country Villages. By George Burder.* 4 *Vols.* 12*mo.* 4*s.* 6*d. sewed.* Chapman.

A PRACTICE has lately commenced in various parts of this island, which in many places may be attended with very good effects; but, as it is liable to great abuse, it requires the watchful eye of all who are awakened to the truths of Christianity. It presents itself under the most favorable aspect—that of preaching the Gospel to the poor,—and is countenanced by those among the clergy of the established church who assume the name of evangelical preachers, and those among the dissenters who would be regarded as more serious than the body at large. A society of neighbouring ministers agree among themselves to preach alternately in the adjoining villages, on week-days or Sunday evenings, hereby giving to their casual hearers the enticing charm of variety, and rendering their own employment easy by such division of labour. Far from discouraging such an attempt to preach the Gospel to the poor, we regard it in many cases as highly praise-worthy; and contemplate the hour spent by associate villagers as just so much time frequently rescued from the ale-house, and in every instance employed in a manner truly useful and salutary. But it is our duty to mark the consequences of this mode of preaching, as it relates to the national church. The connexion between the evangelical clergy and the dissenting ministers of all persuasions, under the idea of their being united together by the great bond of the Gospel, becomes hereby so firmly established, that every one makes it his pride to be a ready attendant where another associates. The people also who are thus alternately edified, repair on Sundays to such neighbouring towns as afford them an opportunity of hearing the Gospel preached according to their ideas of it, and thus desert their parish-churches for foreign places of worship. Hence the attachment to the established church is daily weakened; and there is no way of restoring its vigour but by the assiduity of its ministers in their pulpits, and an augmented intercourse with their parishioners.

From these sermons the clergy may learn in what manner they ought to employ themselves; although the preacher's object—that, we mean, of conveying to the poor the great truths of the Gospel in the plainest language possible—is not always obtained. The terms selected are frequently too learned for common capacities. Their chief feature—and which is the common characteristic of

Digitized by Google

the evangelical mode of preaching—is an address to the passions: and the passion of fear is more frequently resorted to than that of love. This mode of instruction is certainly very easy and very popular; but there appears no small degree of impropriety in it—for the Gospel in its very meaning implies '*good tidings;*' and under the Gospel dispensation we are rather called upon to consider the Supreme Being in his character described by St. John—'God is love.'

We were not surprised, in the course of the work, to find every subject of controversy introduced and defended with very little attention to any thing that had been advanced by its adversaries. In one place this inattention is so very gross, that we cannot let it pass without reprehension. The preacher assumes for his text, 1 John v. 7, 'There are three that bear record in heaven—the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost; and these three are one.' This passage, it is now well known, is altogether spurious, and was never written by St. John; yet, as if the proof had not been before the public, the orator, with unpardonable audacity, asserts—

'Perhaps you will be told that this verse is not found in some ancient manuscripts of the New Testament, but has been added by the Trinitarians. But we are assured by men of the first learning and credibility, that it is found in the most ancient copies; and whoever examines, will find that the sense of the chapter is not complete without it.' Vol. iii. p. 3.

For the latter part of this asseveration we do not blame—we pity, the writer; since, if he really think as he asserts, the error exists in his intellects: but the disingenuity contained in the former paragraph admits of no justification. Ought he not, in common ingenuousness, to have told his hearers that men also of the first learning and credibility deny that the verse is found in any ancient manuscript of the Greek Testament? And is he not reprehensible for making this controverted passage his text, and thus endeavouring to give it an additional stamp of authenticity?

We are too well acquainted with preachers of this description to expect them to pay much attention to the point which they will call *carnal learning:* but, whatever may be the doctrines which any party preaches, it is the great interest of the public that the book which we all defend should be preserved from error. The opinions of fallible men will die away: yet the world should be careful who take upon themselves the important task of communicating instruction to the poor; and when such persons think that they have a call to preach, let them remember that the popularity attending them is no proof of spirituality; for prophecy has long since declared that the time will come when men shall have itching ears.

ART. 21.—*Internal and presumptive Evidences of Christianity, considered separately, and as uniting to form one Argument. By John Simpson.* 8*vo.* 8*s. Boards.* Egerton. 1801.

This is an excellent compilation; and they who have not access to a great number of books will here find collected together the sentiments of the best writers of our nation on the most important sub-

Digitized by Google

jects. The compiler himself also is entitled to great merit for his mode of arranging and connecting together his materials; and the argument is treated in such a manner, that, although it should fail to have an effect on a very prejudiced believer, the Christian reader will rise up with renewed satisfaction in the wisdom of God, as it appears in the life of our Saviour, and the acts recorded of him by the Apostles. The work is digested in a series of propositions; and, besides the author's quoting largely on every point, there are constant references to others who have written on the same subject. The result of the evidence produced is stated in the following terms.

'We have shown, that there is no peculiar presumption against either a revelation in general, or Christianity in particular, previous to an examination into the evidences of them; but that there are several strong presumptions in favour of the divine authority of Jesus and his religion. We have also manifested, that the New Testament bears peculiarly forcible and very various internal marks of credibility. We have further evinced, that the accounts of the several arguments to which Christ appeals in his own favour, are attended with numerous and powerful internal and presumptive evidences, that such proofs were really exhibited as establish the divinity of his mission.

'Let the reader maturely weigh each argument separately, and, also, as concurring with all the rest, to form one consistent body of proof. With the widest and most accurate view that his mind can take of so large and varied a field of evidence, let him calmly and impartially consider, whether it be probable, or even possible, that such numerous, various, and distinguishing characters of truth, coming from such different quarters, many of them having no previous connexion with each other, should all so exactly tally and coincide in favour of what is not true. If, upon such a survey, he thinks it is not probable that this should be the case, then he must think it is not probable that Jesus was either an enthusiast or an impostor; and, therefore, he must think it probable, that he was what he pretended to be. If he thinks there could not be such a concurrence to justify a falsity, then he must directly conclude that Jesus had a divine commission, and that his religion was from God.' P. 632.

ART. 22.—*The Millennium; or, cheerful Prospects of the Reign of Truth, Peace, and Righteousness; and serious Reflexions on the Commencement of the New Century: Two Discourses, preached—the First on November 5, 1800, and the Second on January 4, 1801—in the New Chapel, Bridport, with Notes. By Thomas Howe.* 8vo. 1s. 6d. Longman *and* Rees.

These discourses are printed at the request of the congregation before which they were delivered; and we beg leave to add our testimony to that of the congregation—that 'they appear well calculated to promote the important cause of Christian truth, liberty, and righteousness.' The preacher does not attempt, like a modern poet, to fix the time when the glories of the Millennium are to be displayed, but advances it as a truth established by prophesy, that the afflictions of the church will cease, and the kingdoms of the world become the kingdoms of God and his Christ. On this happy period he

Digitized by Google

makes many pious and judicious reflexions; and he gives three remarkable criteria of it; namely, 'the general diffusion of knowledge and truth, the establishment of liberty and peace, and the practice of piety and righteousness. In the second discourse, the commencement of the century is made the introduction to very serious reflexions on the brevity of life, on the wisdom of God in appointing a succession of generations, and, amidst the fluctuating state of all human affairs, on his own immutability. Hence consolation is derived, as it respects the Christian cause, or the support which individuals receive from Providence. On the first head, it is to be piously considered that 'the religion of the Gospel cannot fail.'

'Christianity has hitherto survived the most formidable oppositions, according to the prediction of its divine author. It has hitherto subsisted in various ages and countries, and during successive generations. And we have no reason to fear for the ark of God, or the truth of his word.

'The Christian, indeed, cannot but lament the wide spread of infidelity, and the rejection of the Gospel by many who rank among the acute and ingenious. But he looks to God, he considers his invariable faithfulness, and immediately every apprehension that the Christian cause will fail for want of due support is banished from his mind, and he chides his desponding fears.

'Though the religion of Jesus has been so much corrupted, and its corruptions have been a fruitful source of infidelity, when he considers the prophecies of the word of God, he sees that this was predicted. An antichristian power was to arise in the very bosom of the church, and make the Christian system a quite opposite thing from what it was when it came out of the hands of its divine author. He perceives that this power was to reign and flourish for an appointed time, then decay, and at length be totally destroyed. As the former part of this prophecy has been fulfilled, to the disgrace of humanity and religion, we have good reason for concluding that the latter will be accomplished.' P. 49.

Both discourses are written with equal perspicuity and gravity. The mind of the preacher was evidently impressed with the awful truths communicated through his means to the congregation; and they are calculated to inspire every serious Christian with the firmest confidence in the hand of Providence, which over-rules the perplexed and intricate politics of the world, and adjusts them to his own wise and salutary purposes.

ART. 23.—*The Church of England vindicated from Misrepresentation; showing her genuine Doctrines as contained in her Articles, Liturgy, and Homilies. With a particular Reference to the 'Elements of Christian Theology, by the Bishop of Lincoln.' By a Presbyter of the Church of England.* 8vo. 3s. Mawman. 1801.

Are the Articles of the church of England Calvinistic, or the contrary? and in what sense did the framers of them, and their successors for more than a hundred years after their projection, subscribe to them?——In opposition to the prevalence of fashion, our presbyter takes up the Calvinistic gauntlet, and maintains his opinion with

great firmness. The novel doctrines of the bishop of Lincoln, of whose diocese he professes himself a member, he opposes most strenuously, and points out several striking contradictions between his 'New Elements of Christian Theology' and the Articles and Canons of the church.

'Had your lordship lived with Ridley, Hooper, Latimer, or Cranmer, could you have maintained the articles in the sense they held them, or gone to the stake in the maintenance of them? Compare every page of their writings with your Christian Theology. Would you have appointed Peter Martyr or Bucer, known and professed Calvinists, to the theological chairs of the two universities, or ordained the pupils who attended their lectures, and avowed their sentiments? Had your lordship been called to Lambeth, must you not have marked with abhorrence the articles drawn up there by your episcopal brethren? Had your publication come before the university when Barret and Baro preached against the Calvinistic doctrines, must you not have gone into the university pulpit, and made a public recantation, or been expelled?' p. 9.

These are forcible questions; and whatever may be the opinions at present maintained in the church, whether more or less agreeable to Scripture than heretofore, we cannot hesitate to join with our presbyter in the assertion that his doctrines are of closer consistency with those of our first reformers than the new system which comes forward so boldly under the sanction of the episcopal authority of the day.

The subject is of a serious and most important nature; and the writer is impressed with a due sense of the solemnity of subscribing to articles of faith. We cannot too frequently bring this matter before the public, nor too seriously adjure the clergy and candidates for the ministry to attend to the plain dictates of honour and conscience, in opposition to the impious and abominable sophisms advanced by some celebrated Cambridge divines, which render the act of subscription nugatory and absurd.

'How glaring' (observes our author most pertinently) 'must be the conduct of any bishop, priest, or deacon, who avows his abhorrence and disbelief of any article which he hath so solemnly avouched, as proved by most certain warrants of Holy Scripture? Let every man of candour and conscience judge what must be the state of a person's soul, in the sight of a heart-searching God, who makes such a confession of faith, holds all his church preferments under it, and continues to enjoy them, though he openly denies the professions he has made to be true, and proceeds even to brand, as false and abominable, what he hath subscribed as proved by most certain warrant of Holy Scripture!' p. 38.

The attack made by the bishop of Lincoln upon the Athanasian creed has struck the world with astonishment. Whatever may be its merits or demerits, no one could have suspected that the latter should be proclaimed to the world by episcopal authority, or that, 'at the late ordination, on Trinity Sunday, at Bugden,' (as the writer asserts on information) 'the Athanasian creed was not read.' It is

Digitized by Google

certainly very consistent with the bishop's avowed opinions to forbear the repetition of this creed in his presence on Trinity Sunday, or any other occasion: but what becomes of the authority of the church, which has ordered the creed to be read on that day at least?

'That it is very inconsistent and presumptuous in the bishop to subscribe, as proved by most certain warrants of Holy Scripture, what he declares to have no warrant from Scripture, is evident; and to begin an exposition of the doctrinal articles of the church with an explicit disavowal of her creed, and in the article in question, standing in strict connexion with the whole system, and itself of singular importance, as involving the eternal state of millions, is not a little extraordinary. I hope he will not expel me from his diocese for preferring the acknowledged authority of the church to any one of her recreant sons.' P. 60.

'Admitting the truth of the creed, those who without doubt perish everlastingly, afford an awful scene, at which the bishop expresses his abhorrence, and not only entertains doubts, but brands the Church itself, and her authority, with all who, as true churchmen in former or present times, believe the doctrine to be proved by most certain warrant of Holy Scripture, as unwise, inconsistent, and presumptuous.' P. 61.

This extraordinary conduct towards the church must be deemed by every one highly injurious to its interests; and the opinion of the writer before us, to which, as it stands in the following extract, we give our unlimited assent, we recommend to the serious attention of all who have any regard for the truths of the Gospel and the doctrine and discipline of the church of England.

'I would just observe, that in our articles of faith no link can be broken without dissolving unity of opinion. The whole system may be wrong, disputed, refuted, if the Scripture so admits; but the whole, as a formula of doctrine designed to prevent diversity of opinion, must stand or fall together. I am not at liberty to select what I like, and reject what displeases me. If the whole be not consistent with the Scripture, and with itself, it must be renounced as the doctrines of men, and not subscribed, as proved by most certain warrants of Holy Scripture.' P. 62.

The writer's opinion is sanctioned in the strongest manner by the authority of the church in its fifth canon.

'Whoever shall affirm that any of the articles agreed upon for providing against diversity of opinion are in any part erroneous, or such as he may not with a good conscience subscribe unto, let him be excommunicated *ipso facto*.' P. 62.

The positive language of the church may be some excuse for the decisive tone with which our presbyter maintains its authority.

'The bishop' (he says) 'should review his broad assertions, and

Digitized by Google

compare them with his own standard of doctrine. I plead not against those who reject the authority of the church. Every man has a right to search the Scripture for himself; but a bishop, a minister, a member of the church of England, stands (αυτοκαταχριτος) without excuse, who rejects the authority to which he solemnly professes his assent and consent.' P. 154.

The writer is evidently one of the party usually denominated evangelical; and he affords us traces of that masterly pen which lately delineated the history of the church. In the diocese of Lincoln there are, we understand, several presbyters who adopt the same opinions; and the opposition between these and the bishop of their diocese, reminds us of the awful asseveration—'a house divided against itself cannot stand.' The question should assuredly be decided. Either let the articles, the liturgy, the homilies, and the canons—for they all must stand or fall together—be wholly relinquished, and a new code of ecclesiastical doctrines and discipline be framed upon clearer views (if any such there be) of Christianity; or let the present system be supported with honesty and zeal: let it not be impugned by those whose honours and emoluments are derived from it: let it be asserted that, without infringing on the toleration due to every other sect, the church is resolved to secure the allegiance of its own members. The present state of things has a tendency to give too much encouragement, on the one hand, to fanaticism, under the name of evangelical instruction; and, on the other, to fill the church with a body of clergy opposers, or, at least, very indifferent supporters of its express tenets.

ART. 24.—*A Blow at the Root of Infidelity; or the Agreement of Nature and Scripture in Testimony of a Triune God; a Sermon. By the Rev. John Chamberlain, Bath.* 8vo. 1s. Mawman. 1801.

If we were not convinced that the author of this work wrote from the purest motives, and was a complete believer in the doctrine which is maintained in it, we should have supposed that the former part of the publication had been intended rather as a burlesque on, than a serious proof of, the article of the Trinity. To suppose that the material heavens can lead us to the knowledge of the Trinity, and that there is a trinity in unity in them, can only tend to confuse our opinions on a very important topic, which ought to be examined only by the light of revelation. As a text to this strange composition, is given the spurious verse in the First Epistle of St. John, in the vulgar translation; a circumstance which leads us to form a very indifferent opinion of the biblical talents of the writer, to whom we recommend a serious attention to the words and spirit of the sacred writings, instead of trifling deductions from vain philosophy.

ART. 25.—*Thoughts upon modern Religion, and its Influence on modern Manners.* 8vo. 1s. Rivington. 1801.

Our expectations were raised at the commencement of this work, but were not gratified at its termination. The writer introduces the early reformers to make their reflexions on the events which have taken place within the last twelve years. The prostration of Anti-

Digitized by Google

christ was an event to which they looked forward with the utmost confidence: they triumphed in the idea; but what must be their surprise to perceive their descendents so far from rejoicing in the fall of popery, that the tidings of its re-establishment are received with pleasure, and that the British troops are adorned with honours from a pope and a Mahometan prince. The pen of a great master might be employed on such a subject; but our author very soon quits it, to dilate on the supposed frequency of adultery, dueling, and boxing, among us. The duties of the Sabbath, it is true, are too much neglected; and this shameful conduct is a marked feature in the degeneracy of modern days. The omission of family devotion is another point on which the writer with justice expatiates; and we could wish that the example of one of our legislators was followed in every house; for, in the family of that gentleman, no company, no consideration whatever, prevents their assembling together before breakfast for short prayers, and the perusal of a portion of the Scriptures, or a book on religious subjects. They who have had the advantage of being in such families know that the spirit of devotion is no obstacle to cheerfulness and happiness, and that all the duties of social life are best performed where parent and child, master and servant, daily bend the knee before the Creator, and where each, in consequence thereof, with a grateful heart enters on his daily occupation.

ART. 26.—*Extracts Moral and Sacred; or a few Hints selected from the Writings of the Wise and Good, in Support of the Cause of Religion and good Order. By the Rev. D. Tonge, M. A. &c.* 8vo. 3*s.* 6*d. Boards.* Rivingtons.

This compilation is made with great judgement, from the works of Burnet, De Luc's Histoire de l'Homme, Bryant on the Authenticity of the Scriptures and the Plagues of Egypt, David Levi, Soame Jenyns, Locke, and Stillingfleet. The concurrent testimony of these eminent men to the truths of religion may be well introduced by every clergyman to the parlours of the higher order of his parishioners; and we cannot but recommend to such the spirit with which the preface is indited.

'Having spoken of the gentlemen of the dissenting interest, I cannot help adding a word of serious admonition, though perhaps neither party will pay any attention to it. When heavy imputations are laid by the writings of one to the charge of the other, and any thing like animosity prevails among Christians, I cannot help saying, "Sirs, ye are brethren, why do ye wrong one to another?" Weak master though I be, I say in words of the highest authority to those of the establishment, "By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one towards another." "Judge not, that ye be not judged." Upon the same authority I say to the dissenter, and if he receive the Gospel he must bow to it with submissive reverence, "This is my commandment, that ye love one another as I have loved you. Put away from you all envy, wrath, malice;" and, if I could join you both together in the common cause of truth, I would add, "Love the brotherhood, fear God, honour the king" If

Digitized by Google

ye do not the things that I say, men cannot know that ye are Christ's disciples indeed. If, classing yourselves among his disciples, ye will not listen to one of the most prominent lessons of his law, how true is your master's declaration, "Narrow is the way that leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it."

* * * *

'And would to God that the times were such that all men would be at peace with one another, that our enemies would be at peace with us, and that we could be so far of one mind in one house, that the wisdom of our governors could find it safe and prudent to remove all such invidious distinctions, which I have for years taught myself to believe rather tended to the promotion of discord than to the establishment of peace.' P. xxi.

ART. 27.—*The Anniversary Sermon of the Royal Humane Society, preached at the Parish-Churches of Kensington, April* 19, *and of St. Lawrence, Reading, June* 17, 1801. *By W. Langford, D. D. &c. Dedicated (by Permission) to his Majesty, and published for the Benefit of the Charity.—An Appendix by the Society, on shipwrecked Mariners, Resuscitation, &c.* 8*vo.* 1*s.* Rivingtons. 1801.

Every friend to humanity must wish well to the society before whom this sermon was preached. It contains some affecting sentiments on the modes of death which fall under the notice of the society. In the Appendix are given directions for the recovery of persons apparently dead; and with pleasure we read, that by means of this institution 'two thousand five hundred and eighty-nine persons have been restored to life, to their parents, to their families, and to the state.' Subscriptions are received by the following bankers: Baron Dimsdale and Sons; Barnard and Son; Down, Thornton, and Free; Drummonds; Fuller, Chatteris, and Co.; Dr. Fothergill, Bath; and Dr. Haweis, treasurer, N° 8, Spital-square. Several of our readers will, we are persuaded, avail themselves of this information; and it must ever be a satisfaction to us to be in any degree instrumental in promoting the useful designs of so laudable an institution.

ART. 28.—*Address to the Inhabitants of the United Kingdom of Great-Britain and Ireland, on the Termination of the War with France. By the Rev. Thomas Robinson, A.M. &c.* 8*vo.* 4*d.* Rivingtons. 1801.

Pious reflexions on the approach of peace.—The prospects presented to us of the future will, we hope, be realised. 'We may fairly calculate,' says our author, 'upon a considerable reduction of expense, and the removal of some heavy burdens, which the country indeed has borne with a patriotic cheerfulness, but not without painful exertions and sacrifices of private comfort.' But if the writer expect rather too much, his reflexions on past transactions deserve attention; and of several of our more brilliant successes he thus speaks:—'Alas! how often have our victories been celebrated in such a way, as if we worshipped the heathen deities, and not the God of Christians!'

Digitized by Google

ART. 29.—*A Sermon preached before the worshipful the Mayor, &c. of the Town of Berwick-upon-Tweed, on Friday the 13th Day of February, 1801, being the Day appointed by his Majesty for a general Fast. By the Rev. William Stow Lundie, B.A.* 4to. 1s. Law.

Among a variety of topics selected for the meditation of the mayor, &c. of the town of Berwick, the union with Ireland holds a distinguished place; and on other accounts also this may be ranked among those political sermons which, if they must be pronounced from the pulpit, we never wish to see spring up from the press.

ART. 30.—*A Sermon preached at the Octagon Chapel, Bath, on Sunday, April 26, 1801, on returning Thanks for his Majesty's Recovery from a dangerous Sickness. By the Rev. John Gardiner, D.D. &c.* 8vo. 1s. 6d. Robinsons. 1801.

A panegyric on the king, which, however well deserved, is not suited to the pulpit. The praises bestowed on a living monarch in an elaborate oration can seldom be free from the imputation of flattery.

ART. 31.—*A Sermon preached in the Parish Church of Dudley, on Friday, February 13th, 1801, the Day appointed for a general Fast; containing an Address to British Soldiers, (a respectable Body of whom being then present,) by the Rev. L. Booker, LL.D. Published, by Request, for the Benefit of the Soup Charity in the said Parish, and dedicated, with Permission, to his Royal Highness the Duke of York.* 8vo. 1s. West *and* Hughes. 1801.

'The critical reader will be pleased candidly to regard the discourse as a composition not originally meant to meet the public eye, and to ascribe its imperfections rather to the understanding than the heart.'

MEDICINE, &c.

ART. 32.—*A Treatise on the new-discovered Dropsy of the Membranes of the Brain, and Watery Head of Children; proving that it may be frequently cured, if early discovered. With Objections to Vomits, &c. &c. To which are added, Observations on Errors in Nursing; on the Diseases of Children, their Treatment, &c. proper for the Contemplation of Parents. By William Rowley, M.D. &c.* 8vo. 2s. Murray *and* Highley. 1801.

This newly-discovered disease is only the hydrocephalus externus, the accumulation of water existing between the arachnoid membrane and the pia mater. This membrane is very inconsiderable in bulk and contexture; indeed scarcely more than a cellular texture connecting the dura and pia mater. The whole is displayed with great pomp, and the distinction ostentatiously expanded. The latter however is sufficiently clear, from what has been said of the hydrocephalus internus; for, unfortunately, there are no symptoms of distinction between these two diseases; though the enlarged sutures, the extended fontanelle, and the particular fluctuation felt there,

Digitized by Google

will distinguish the dropsy of the membranes from that of the ventricles.

The cure is detailed with equal pomp: but we shall transcribe the indications, which will give a sufficient idea of the author's plan.

'The rational indications of cure, from what has been premised, appeared to be the following:

'1. To attract and evacuate fluids from the exhalants of the most contiguous parts, by means of blisters, to the sutures and whole hairy scalp, according to the exigency of the case, and to continue the discharge copiously.

'2. To promote perspiration, and stimulate the absorbents by calomel and antimony, and keep the body warm.

'3. To act upon the torpid enervated stomach and intestines, and occasionally to evacuate serum by mercurial and stimulating cathartics.

'4. To impart tone and vigor to the debilitated habit by tonics of bark, steel, vitriolated zinc, acid, or sweet elixir of vitriol.

'5. The instituting a very dry diet, that the corroborating effects of the tonics may not be counteracted and defeated, by diluting drinks or slops, tea, &c.

'6. After the cure to still continue the tonics, dry nourishing diet, and warm clothing, to prevent a future relapse.' P. 22.

This plan differs little from that of the case of hydrocephalus internus, only that the blisters to the sutures may in this last disease be omitted. If the dropsy of the brain be ever cured, it is, we believe, by the tonic plan, with small doses of calomel, leaving the rest to the simple powers of nature. We have cured many so; though, in our younger days, we were more fond of a variety of medicines.

The observations on nursing contain some good remarks, joined with a number of strange fancies. Among the latter we reckon the opinions, that suffering the legs to be uncovered renders them misshapen, and that frequent vomiting tends to produce dropsy of the brain. The author would change the children's dress four times a year; viz. linen in summer, calico in spring and autumn, and flannel in winter. This would be very proper, if he could also change the temperature of the air at will, or command it to obey the orders of the calendar.

ART. 33.—*A Collection of Testimonies respecting the Treatment of the Venereal Disease by Nitrous Acid, published by Thomas Beddoes, M. D.* 8*vo.* 4*s. sewed.* Johnson.

This indefatigable author continues to pursue this worn-out subject: but we are now so much habituated to confident assertions, and have so often experienced their fallacy, that we read them with diffidence and distrust. Our scepticism is almost at its height. On the efficacy of the nitrous acid in syphilis the best practitioners are nearly agreed, and consign it to equal oblivion and contempt with that of digitalis in hectics. To the new reports are added, 'Observations on the Cases published by Mr. Blair,' and 'Remarks on various Questions that have arisen during the Investigation of the Antisyphilitic Virtues of the Nitrous Acid.'

Digitized by Google

ART. 34.—*A Letter to Sir Walter Farquhar, Bart. on the Subject of a particular Affection of the Bowels, very frequent and fatal in the East-Indies.* 8vo. 2s. Cadell *and* Davies. 1801.

We are much pleased with this short account of a disease which to us is new. The author relates, with great simplicity and candour, but with equal judgement and discrimination, the appearances of the disease, and its remedies. It would be well if other complaints were so satisfactorily described.

'The disease of which I speak, and which is, by much, the most acute and fatal I have met with in India, is an inflammation of the colon, attended, from the beginning, with a severe fixed pain above the pubes; with extreme difficulty of making water, and frequently an entire suppression of urine. There is, at the same time, a violent and almost unceasing evacuation from the bowels, of a matter peculiar to the disease, and which I cannot describe more correctly, than by observing that it exactly resembles water in which raw flesh had been washed or macerated. There is always a very high fever, with unquenchable thirst and perpetual watchfulness. The pulse is extremely hard, frequent, and strong, resembling that which takes place in the highest degree of pleurisy or the most acute rheumatism; and there is a burning heat in the skin, which leaves a sensation on the finger, as if it had touched a piece of heated metal.

'The fixed pain above the pubes, together with the peculiar evacuation above described, and the suppression of urine, may be regarded as the diagnostics of this disease, which will, on every occasion, sufficiently distinguish it from all other disorders of the intestines. These three leading symptoms are so constant and invariable, that, having always found them existing together when I was first called to see the patient, I had often great difficulty in ascertaining the exact order in which they arose; for the first approaches of disease are either disregarded or not accurately marked by the persons affected. Some of the patients told me that the fixed pain and purging began at the same time; others, that the pain preceded; and others, that they had been suddenly seized with a purging, which, after a few hours' continuance, was followed by the fixed pain and strangury. This last, though a constant, is, no doubt, a secondary symptom, depending on the previous affection of the colon: but with respect to the fixed pain and evacuation, they appeared, in all severe cases, to have begun so nearly at the same time, that I could not determine, with precision, which followed or which preceded the other.' P. 3.

From dissection, the colon seems to be primarily affected, and the bladder suffers only from communication, as the lower part of the large intestine is generally inflamed. Tenesmus sometimes occurs; but the distinction between it and dysentery is sufficiently obvious from what we have transcribed. Bleeding seems useful; but opium, given in the commencement, is the most effectual remedy. If delayed till the fever supervenes, it is injurious, and can only be admitted on the decline of the complaint. The remedies then are emollient clysters and drinks, with fomentations above the pubes,

Digitized by Google

which are more useful than blisters. Similar symptoms occasionally succeed after the usual fluxes of India: but they then are only a secondary complaint, and are to be managed in the same way.

ART. 35.—*Some few Cases and Observations on the Treatment of Fistula in Ano, Hemorrhage, Mortification, the Venereal Disease, and Strictures of the Urethra. By John Andree, M. D. &c.* 8vo. 2s. Nicol.

These cases have unaccountably escaped us; which we regret the more, as in some points to which they refer we have been obliged to find our own way without assistance. Fortunately we have not greatly differed from our author. Fistula in ano may, he remarks, be often cured without the operation, by attending to the patient's health, and avoiding irritation, or using only a gentle compress. Indeed the health should be particularly attended to; for they are often depositions from the mere efforts of nature, and, on the discharge being stopped, the original disease returns.

In hæmorrhages from wounds, the artery, when tied, should always, in our author's opinion, be brought to the sight. In a violent internal hæmorrhage from the intestines, he succeeded by placing the patient in a washing-tub, and repeatedly pouring pails of cold water on the belly.

In mortification, attended with pain, Dr. Andree thinks opium even a superior medicine to the bark. As an antisyphilitic, he conceives the nitrous acid not effectual, though it may relieve some obstinate Venereal symptoms when mercury has been long continued and disagrees. He dissuades the application of mercurial ointment to chancres, and prefers dry lint. Some fixed pains, which remain after salivation, he remarks, are often rheumatic, and may be cured by the sarsa, a milk diet, and free air. In this observation most practitioners will agree with him.

Some cautions are added respecting the use of caustics; and Dr. Andree advises that they be not employed till bougies have absolutely failed.

ART. 36.—*Experiments upon the Circulation of the Blood, throughout the vascular System: on languid Circulation: on the Motion of the Blood, independent of the Action of the Heart: and on the Pulsations of the Arteries. By the Abbé Spallanzani. With Notes, and a Sketch of the Literary Life of the Author; by J. Tourdes, M. D. &c. Translated into English, and illustrated with additional Notes; by R. Hall, M. D. &c.* 8vo. 9s. *Boards.* Ridgway. 1801.

We noticed the original of this work in the Appendix to our 29th volume, p. 544, and need only announce the present translation. It appears sufficiently correct and elegant. The additional notes are not numerous, nor are they important.

ART. 37.—*The Doctrine of Phlogiston established, and that of the Composition of Water refuted. By Joseph Priestley, L.L. D. F. R. S. &c.* 8vo. 3s. 6d. No Publisher's Name.

This is the *telum imbelle, sine ictu*, of a veteran in the science of the conquered Priam. To engage in the controversy at present would

Digitized by Google

be useless: but many facts which readily admit of solution, according to the new doctrine, are urged with a pertinacity bordering on prejudice. It is singular, that, in theology as well as philosophy, Dr. Priestley will allow no one to change his opinions except himself.

AGRICULTURE, &c.

ART. 38.—*The System followed during the two last Years by the Board of Agriculture further illustrated; with Dissertations on the Growth and Produce of Sheep and Wool, as well Spanish as English. Also, Observations upon, and a new Plan for, the Poor, and Poor Laws. To which are added Remarks on the Modes of Culture and Implements of Husbandry, used in Portugal; and an Inquiry into the Causes of the late Scarcity, and Means proposed to remedy it in future. By John, Lord Somerville. Illustrated with Plates.* 4to. 1*l.* 1*s.* *Boards.* Miller.

This system, the observations on the English wool, and the superiority of the Rhyeland sheep, have been already before us in different publications; and we have expressed our full approbation not only of the plan of manufacturing English cloths with English wool, but of the great probability of being able to effect it, if the whole system be not entirely destroyed by the gross Leicestershire and Lincolnshire breeds. No observation that we have yet been enabled to make has convinced us that the meat and the wool are not materially injured by thus adding to the bulk and the fat of the animal.

The other parts of this volume are highly useful, particularly the employment of oxen in drawing, as managed in Portugal. It reminds us of an omission in our account of the Agricultural Survey of Lincolnshire, where this subject particularly occurs, and where the slowness of oxen is considered as a drawback upon their other advantages. We intended to have remarked that this is only a partial inconvenience, and by no means to be put in competition with the other circumstances which lead us to the employment of other animals in husbandry, as preferable to oxen. The remarks on the poor's laws are not of peculiar importance.

ART. 39.—*The Gentleman and Farmer's Assistant; containing, first, Tables for finding the Content of any Piece of Land, from Dimensions taken in Yards. Second, Tables, showing the Width required for an Acre in any square Piece of Land, from one to five hundred Yards in Length. Third, Tables, showing the Number of Loads that will manure an Acre of Land, by knowing the Distance of the Heaps. Fourth, a Table for measuring Thatcher's Work, from one to sixty-four Feet long, and from one to twenty-five Feet high. By John Cullyer.* 12mo. 2*s.* 6*d.* *Bound.* Scatcherd.

This is a useful work for both gentlemen and farmers; as from it they may with great ease measure their land, determine upon the most profitable method of manuring it, and decide with accuracy upon a variety of expenses incidental to agriculture.

Digitized by Google

EDUCATION.

ART. 40.—*A Rhetorical Grammar: in which the common Improprieties in Reading and Speaking are detected, and the true Sources of elegant Pronunciation are pointed out. With a complete Analysis of the Voice, showing its specific Modifications, and how they may be applied to different Species of Sentences, and the several Figures of Rhetoric. To which are added, Outlines of Composition, or, plain Rules for writing Orations and speaking them in public. The Third Edition, with considerable Alterations and Additions. By John Walker.* 8vo. 7s. Robinsons. 1801.

The candour and good sense of this respectable author bespeak our applause; and on an examination—for, though it be the third edition, we have again looked it over—we find no reason to resign our prepossession. His arguments and illustrations equally claim our applause; yet we think, with him, that the pupil will follow the example rather than investigate the foundation of the precept. Be it so: this will not lessen the merit of the writer; for those who have learnt the learned languages without the rules of grammar would however have found themselves more complete masters with their assistance. The author's account of the great improvements in this edition we shall select.

'The present edition is almost a new work. The praxis of sentences, so arranged as to lead the pupil from the easiest to the most difficult, seemed better calculated for the lower class of pupils in reading than for students in rhetoric, and therefore this has been omitted. The want of rules for composition, so essential in rhetoric, has been supplied from the best source—Blair's Lectures: and what was deficient even in these has been furnished from professor Ward's Lectures on Oratory:—so that with the original matter on the elegant pronunciation of words, on accent, emphasis, and inflexion of voice, and the proper pronunciation of the figures of rhetoric, it is presumed the present work is the most perfect of its kind in the language.' P. v.

ART. 41.—*Elements of Elocution: in which the Principles of Reading and Speaking are investigated; and such Pauses, Emphasis, and Inflexions of Voice, as are suitable to every Variety of Sentence, are distinctly pointed out and explained; with Directions for strengthening and modulating the Voice, so as to render it varied, forcible, and harmonious. To which is added, a complete System of the Passions; showing how they affect the Countenance, Tone of Voice, and Gesture of the Body; exemplified by a copious Selection of the most striking Passages of Shakspeare. The whole illustrated by Copper-Plates, explaining the Nature of Accent, Emphasis, Inflexion, and Cadence. The Second Edition, with Alterations and Additions. By John Walker.* 8vo. 7s. *Boards.* Robinsons.

This is a work of the same author, which equally merits our commendation. We cannot, as a second edition, engage in a very extensive analysis; yet can safely recommend it to the attention of public

Digitized by Google

speakers, who will certainly find it a work of value and importance. It is not showy and flowery, but judicious and intrinsically valuable. The alterations in this new edition we shall also add in the author's own words.

'When the first edition of this work was published, I considered the human voice as divisible into two inflexions only. Some time after, upon re-considering the subject more maturely, I found there were certain turns of voice which I could not distinctly class with either of these two inflexions. This discovery mortified me exceedingly. I feared my whole labour was lost, and that I had been fatiguing myself with a distinction which existed no where but in my imagination. None but those who have been system-makers can judge of the regret and disappointment which this apprehension occasioned. It did not, however, continue long. The same trial of the voice which assured me of the two opposite inflexions, the rising and falling, soon convinced me that those inflexions which I could not reduce to either of these two were neither more nor less than two combinations of them; and that they were real *circumflexes*; the one beginning with the rising inflexion, and ending with the falling upon the same syllable; and the other beginning with the falling, and ending with the rising on the same syllable.' P. xi.

POETRY.

ART. 42.—*More Wonders! an Heroic Epistle to M. G. Lewis, Esq. M. P. With a Prescript extraordinary, and an Ode on the Union. By Mauritius Moonshine.* 4to. 2s. Barker. 1801.

The object of this epistle is to abuse Mr. Lewis, for making his Tales of Wonder a selection instead of an original work, and to ridicule the use of goblin machinery. This is done in decent rhymes, which no person can object to while he is reading the pamphlet, nor remember when he has laid it down; *e. g.*

'Oft, in youth's idle summer, have I stray'd,
Delighted, thro' the wild wood's leafy shade,
While from some legend's magic clue I caught
All its romantic tenderness of thought;
Oft, fondly glowing with heroic heat,
At *Arthur*'s table took my fancy'd seat;
At *Merlin*'s call, beneath unclouded skies,
Saw bloomy bow'rs, and golden turrets rise;
And, as soft warblings harmonis'd each spray,
Dissolv'd in bliss, all languishingly lay.
Soon riper reason spurn'd the specious dream,
When manhood bade me chuse a nobler theme,
Some theme by wider benefits pursu'd,
Some theme conducive to the public good.
Much as thyself I prize the merry elves,
But wish not fairy-tales to load our shelves;
Nor yet have offer'd, with presumptuous pride,
To push, for *Geoffry*, *Juvenal* aside;

Digitized by Google

Tho' oft my breast has felt a rapt'rous thrill,
Touch'd by the plume of *Ludovico*'s quill;
Tho' oft with *Dante* I have lov'd to dwell
Mid the dread woes of *Ugolino*'s cell;
And, o'er the fabled scroll of grief severe,
Heav'd the big sigh, or stream'd the ardent tear.
But when those fatal fantasies pervert
The wayward sense, not meliorate the heart,
When the numb'd soul is steep'd in stupid trance,
And ev'n the Scriptures dwindle to romance;
I curse the madness of a guilty taste,
By thee, with more than vulgar glory, grac'd;
Avert my fondness, from such nauseous whims,
Preferring to *Child Waters*, *David's Hymns*.
Like conj'rer's bag, how many a maniac's scull,
Is with newts, toads, and asps, completely full!
Sure that the horrid medley will go down,
He spews his various garbage on the town,
'Till sprightly belles are frighten'd into fits,
And beaux, if blest with any, lose their wits.' P. 7.

An ode, entitled The Union, is subjoined, in which the anonymous poet, forgetting his dislike to all apparitions, introduces an Irish ghost; the same ode contains the following picture:

'Lo! with maternal fondness Mercy weeps;
Oh catch, oh venerate the holy dew!
One drop from that refulgent sluice
Can wash from Murder's pall the deepest dye,
And more than angel-purity produce.' P. 22.

This image of washing Murder's cloak in one tear from the *sluice* of Mercy's eye has all the merit of originality.

ART. 43.—*The Dawn of Peace, an Ode.—And Amphion, or the Force of Concord, Regulation, and Peace, an Ode. By Thomas Noble.* 4to. 2*s.* 6*d.* Ginger. 1801.

If the author of these odes be a young man, we may hope from him better things. His versification is strong and sonorous.

'Now may'st thou, Commerce, spread thy boldest sail,
Dare the dark storm, or court the gale:
Let thy wide arms again, with fond embrace,
Press to thy breast the human race:
Mandates from cruel Avarice disdain—
From Slavery's sanguinary train;
But ev'ry wish that Science breathes obey—
She taught thee first the wat'ry way;
Her magnet-sceptre to thy hand assign'd,
To blend our separated kind;
Gave thee the polished crystal, to descry
Thy path directed by the sky.

Digitized by Google

O now, while anxious Luxury awaits,
From ev'ry breeze thy costly freights,
Through distant climes waft Nature's genial plan,
And teach mankind to know—to love—to succour man.

'Come, ruddy Labour, lov'd by Freedom, come—
Drop thy red faulchion, and thy plough resume;
No longer war requires thy youthful band:
They come—a rude and hardy train—
They hear the uncultur'd earth complain,
They see cold Avarice grasp the dearthy land.
Tremble Monopoly—thy reign is o'er!
A war-taught troop demand their food,
From fields defended by their blood:
Where's their till'd acre—that paternal store?
Barren! it now extends thy desolate domain.
Base Avarice, more cruel than the grave!
The swain opprest becomes thy slave:
No more Contentment enters his low cot—
Sport soothes no more his rugged lot;
For Independence, soul of joy, is flown,
Toil's produce is no more its own!
Each dastard vice his soul imbibes from thee—
Man to be virtuous must be free.

'Arise, delightful DAWN of PEACE, arise!
To thee pale Labour lifts his anxious eyes—
Thy roseate beams forsaken Art adores;
To thy bright morn his anthem Science pours—
And Liberty, her drooping face unveils,
Gazes on thee, and smiles, and thy glad promise hails!' P. 11.

In the second ode, Mr. Noble occasionally introduces the line of fourteen syllables.

ART. 44.—*The Genius of France, or the Consular Vision; a Poem. With Notes.* 4to. Hatchard.

The plan of this poem will be best explained by copying the argument.

'Bonaparte retires from the splendor of the Tuileries to Malmaison—His midnight slumbers are broken by the sudden appearance of the Genius of France, who wishes to inform himself of the ultimate designs of the consul on his country—He assumes the character of the Genius of Ambition to prevent detection, and conceal his views—The consul, convinced of supernatural agency, and anxious to be informed of his future destiny, exhibits a sketch of his general designs of exalting France—1, by arms and the revolutionary spirit—2, by commerce—3, by the arts and philosophy; but suspecting the errand of the genius, from the earnestness with which he inquires into the particular destiny of France, he determines to answer no question, and preserve an invincible silence: this reduces the Genius to the exercise of his power, in order to carry his point.

Digitized by Google

He evokes the shades of Cæsar and Cromwell, and shows him, that to follow their example is to share their fate. But, finding him rather envying than dreading their destiny, Monck is summoned, who made so wise and noble a use of equal power. An address is then directed more particularly to Bonaparte, and the visit closed with some wise and patriotic exhortations.' P. 5.

We extract the appearance of Cromwell.

' A form appear'd, more ghastly than the last,
With mis'ry inexpressible o'ercast;
Inly the blood-shot eye with terror glar'd,
Jaundice o'erspread his haggard cheeks—his beard
Discolour'd was, and burnt—half hid, he wore
A coat of mail, and arms in secret bore;
Invading care his deep-set wrinkles told,
Less by his years, than sorrows, stricken old.——
Conviction met the consul's rapid view,
And the great shade by sympathy he knew.
In act he stood his visitor to hail,
His words, the mighty charm so order'd, fail;
From his wrung bosom bursts the frequent sigh,
And half-form'd accents in low murmurs die.
Intent the Genius gaz'd, as if to scan
The soul's unguarded workings, then began—
" That conscious eye, that heaving breast, declare,
The great Protector's titles I may spare:
'Tis well—and, oh! with awe this scene survey;
Home to thy breast this dread example lay.
What, though he act the monarch's outward part,
Thou seest the vulture preying on his heart:
What, though abroad or dreaded or rever'd,
At home behold him, fearing more than fear'd——
Suspicion haunts him as he breaks his bread;
Suspicion follows where he lays his head:
He sees a murd'rer when he hails a guest,
And in a daughter's arms can find no rest.
Shun, so thou hop'st, a Cæsar's bloody tomb;
Know, life subsists but in a Cromwell's doom:
The surest path thou tread'st in leads to this,
And Caution's footstep trembles o'er th' abyss.—
Behold how all his glitt'ring trophies fade!
How sorrows haunt, and maladies invade;
See, hope by terror, comfort chas'd by care,
And life resign'd in yellings of despair!
Oh! stop one moment in thy proud career—
One moment stop;—from Glory's dazzling sphere
Behold the fruit that usurpations give—
To die like Cæsar, or like Cromwell live." P. 23.

The versification of the whole poem is equally spirited.

Digitized by Google

ART. 45.—*Poems, chiefly Sonnets, by the Author of Translations from the Italian of Petrarch, Metastasio, and Zappi.* 8vo. 3s. Robinsons.

These poems discover little imagination; but they are evidently produced by a man of good and affectionate feelings, and a cultivated mind. The two following sonnets will be read with interest.

'SONNET XX.

'*On the Death of my Brother* FREDERICK.

'Νυν τις ενηειης ———
Μνησασθω· πασιν γαρ επιστατο μειλιχος ειναι
Ζωος εων· νυν δ' αυ θανατος και μοιρα κιχανει. IA. P. 670.

'Sweetest and best of men, of brothers, friends,
Of sons, of masters! whose unruffled mind
No duty e'er forgot, no toil declin'd;
With all that modest worth which ne'er pretends
Though active still; that charity that tends
Another's sores, while piously resign'd
She veils her own; that wisdom that combin'd
With courage stiffly stands or timely bends!
O witness, for yē knew, each faithful breast,
With him so oft in hard adventures tried,
Speak him in deeds how old, in years how green!
Witness this heart, though wounded not depress'd,
Whose sorrow swells e'en now with decent pride,
And dares to thank thy God that thou hast been!' P. 39.

'SONNET XXI.

'Vain, foolish girl, whose seeming beauteous face
Serves but to hide the weak contracted heart;
In whose soft features ev'ry pleasing art
Deluded fancy strives in vain to trace;
In whom no gen'rous feeling finds a place,
Friendship, nor love, nor soft compassion's smart;
But, careless to receive or to impart,
Thou hid'st in sullen silence ev'ry grace;
At length I've broke thy chain; my heart is freed;
Upon the hook of cold suspense no more
Bleeding to hang, and in fond struggles faint.
And haply, when thy short-liv'd reign is o'er,
To warmer passions pity shall succeed,
Pity to hear thy lone and fruitless plaint.' P. 41.

The volume is dedicated to Mr. Pitt, for whom (says the poet)

'——————— the sorrowing Nine
Had turn'd indignant from a world oppress'd.' P. ix.

Is this praise or irony?

Digitized by Google

ART. 46.—*The Methodist; a Poem.* 8vo. 1s. Button *and* Son. 1801.

An ironical defence of the Methodists, in smooth, but tame, blank verse. The following passage, alluding to a defence of subscription, is a fair and favorable specimen of the writer's powers.

'This pleased me well;
So I have drawn a creed—for my own use;
Tom has another, Jack, and Benjamin;
We all have creeds, different as *red* from *green*,
Yet, ne'ertheless, founded, as we are sure,
Upon our Articles.
'This *modern light*,
This *sweeping lexicographer*, no doubt
Reason'd from *strict analogy*. The sun,
The moon and stars, all have their stated rounds,—
Why should not language turn? The restless sea,
The earth we stand on, all are full of change,—
Why should not language change? And I might say,
Our prelates and our clergymen themselves,
(Providing for their future beef and pudding)
Are evermore in motion, *getting on*,—
Why should not language move?
'I trust our friend,
Our *greater Newton*, will persist in these
His *vast* discoveries. Who can dare to say
What changes may take place, by *such* a light
Pour'd on dark matter? He at length may cause
A revolution in material things,
And clearly prove that day is night *disguised*;—
That misery means happiness; that men,
When, in a frolic, or a drunken fit,
They *dash* their paper heads *against the wall*,
Feel nothing but *most exquisite sensations*:—
Nay, such the fertile fancy of our friend,
It is most likely, he will by and by
Disprove all Euclid; shew that elephants
Are men grown *corpulent*—old aldermen!
That fire is water, and that hell itself
Means the third heavens!' P. 55.

Profane readers will complain that the poem is feeble and tediously long. But the poet will be classed, by those of his own persuasion, among the sweet singers of Israël.

ART. 47.—*The Conjunction of Jupiter and Venus, in Leo; on the 29th of September, 1801.—A happy Prelude to a propitious Peace; a Poem.—Mercury's Apology for the Curate's Blunder, an Impromptu; addressed to the Right Hon. the Earl of Yarmouth. And other Poetical Pieces. By the Rev. John Black.* 8vo. 1s. Robinsons.

Mr. Black is improved in versifying. We recollect no passage in his former publication equal to these lines—

Digitized by Google

'Those, who let slip the dogs of war,
And sent their mandates, dire, afar,
Which have produc'd such mighty woes,
Nor left one nation to repose;
Who see their palaces arise,
Like exhalations in the skies;
Whose hearts, from power quite callous grown,
No soft compunctious feelings own;
Whose ears, assail'd by plausive tones,
Heed not a nation's ceaseless groans;
Whom fawning parasites attend,
Prompt their worst actions to defend;
Whose eyes are all unus'd to weep,
Are haply at this hour asleep;
Deep-drench'd in care-repelling wine,
Oblivious, stretch'd on down supine.

'Should they these frenzied times survive,
And should a restless hour arrive—
Will then no terrors of the night,
From fields of blood e'er blast their sight?
Will all within their breasts be still;
And tranquil thoughts their bosoms fill?
Will they walk forth with souls serene—
Thus harmoniz'd to such a scene?
No—sure! The sense of right and wrong,
Will rise resistless—sternly strong,
Tear all the veils that conscience bind,
And flash conviction o'er the mind!
Sleep on then, ministers of hate!
I envy not your torpid state!
But oh! forbid I e'er should bear
The scorpions, that your souls shall tear!' P. 4.

NOVELS.

ART. 48.—*The Follies of Fashion; a Dramatic Novel.* 3 *Vols.* 12*mo.* 13*s.* 6*d. Boards.* Longman *and* Rees. 1801.

The author of these volumes is by no means destitute of abilities, but they do not appear to advantage when employed in novel-writing. The language is sententious and didactic, rather than familiar. There is no diversity of character in the work; and the plot is so far from interesting, that we can discover no *real* reason why sir John Scarsdale and miss Aubrey might not have been married as well in the beginning of the first volume as at the conclusion of the last. The amusements of the present day are certainly conducted in a more trifling manner than they were fifty years ago; but the author's censure of them is abuse rather than satire.

ART. 49.—*Something New; or, Adventures at Campbell House. By Anne Plumptre.* 3 *Vols.* 12*mo.* 15*s. Boards.* Longman *and* Rees. 1801.

The *Something New* which miss Plumptre here presents to the pub-

Digitized by Google

lic is an ugly woman, as the heroine of a novel. It is not very wonderful that the fair author had no predecessors in this tract; nor shall we deem it surprising if she have but few imitators, because novels are the food of young minds, and the copy of juvenile manners: they are a picture of the sensations of a warm imagination, at a time of life when, 'true to our nature, feeling achieves what reason attempts in vain.' To us, in whom old age has bent the passions under a great weight of reason and experience, miss Plumptre's good intention appears with all its advantages.

ART. 50.—*The Pirate of Naples; a Novel. By Mary Charlton. 3 Vols. 12mo. 13s. 6d. Boards.* Lane. 1801.

Angela, the heroine of these volumes, is the supposed child of Nicolo Trappola, a fruiterer of Naples. After passing some time among caves, rocks, and coffins, in due form of novel procedure, she turns out to be the daughter of a person of family, and is married to the man who had fallen in love with her in her former humble state. Notwithstanding all this has been related a hundred times before, it is not badly repeated by Mrs. Charlton. The affixing such names to the personages of a novel as are common to the country where the events happen is certainly proper; but the adoption of terms of quality in a foreign language, as, *marchese, madre, palazzo, povra*, &c. savours a little of affectation.

ART. 51.—*Delaval; a Novel. 2 Vols. 12mo. 8s. Boards.* Lane. 1802.

This is a pleasing little novel, written in an easy correct style, but without any novelty of incident.

ART. 52.—*Swedish Mysteries; or, Hero of the Mines: a Tale. Translated from a Swedish Manuscript, by Johanson Kidderslaw. 3 Vols. 12mo. 13s. 6d. Boards.* Lane. 1801.

We have not leisure to examine whether this novel be really a translation from the Swedish, or whether it be the original production of him who calls himself the translator. The narrative is sufficiently gloomy, and the language sufficiently turgid, to warrant a belief that it is the offspring of some northern author. It will, most likely, amuse for two or three months those who search after novelty; and then, like its brethren, it will be forgotten.

MISCELLANEOUS LIST.

ART. 53.—*The Thespian Dictionary; or, Dramatic Biography of the Eighteenth Century; containing Sketches of the Lives, Productions, &c. of all the principal Managers, Dramatists, Composers, Commentators, Actors, and Actresses, of the United Kingdom: interspersed with several original Anecdotes; and forming a concise History of the English Stage. 8vo. 9s. 6d. Boards.* Hurst. 1802.

This work is intended for a pocket-companion, being closely printed with a very small type, in order to contain a great quantity of matter in as contracted a space as possible. One fault we cannot avoid pointing out; which is, that the dates are not always correct.

Digitized by Google

This perhaps may be an error of the press; but, even as such, it is an unpardonable neglect in a book of reference. In justice, however, we must say that this pocket volume contains a variety of information, which will be found entertaining and instructive to those who are fond of theatrical anecdote and biography. In one particular it is entitled to our warmest praise; namely, that it will not offend the chastest eye. It is a plain narrative of the lives of performers, &c. so far only as they have respect to their calling, and is totally silent upon that lewdness and immorality which too often blacken the history of those who have passed their time among actors and actresses.

ART. 54.—*New Instructions for playing, in all its Varieties, the Game of Billiards with Ease and Propriety. To which is prefixed an Historical Account of the Game, &c. By an Amateur.* 12mo. 1s. 6d. *sewed.* Hurst. 1801.

We have been much disappointed on a perusal of this book. The title informs us that it contains 'instructions for playing;' and, in the description of a mathematical game, we reasonably expected, therefore, scientific principles. We hoped to have seen the angles of the different parts of the table pointed out, and to have heard somewhat of the laws of velocity and repulsion. But nothing of the sort occurs in the whole performance; nor is there the smallest information advanced by what means a hazard may be made from any one given point of the table: all that is laid down is the rules of the different games; yet of what use is a marker but to decide these at the time the parties are playing?

ART. 55.—*The Encyclopædia of Wit.* 12mo. 6s. *Boards.* Phillips.

This is one of the most witless productions we ever perused. There is less of Attic salt in these 558 pages than in almost any other work of the sort with which we are acquainted, although not containing the fourth part of that number. If our readers wish to see into what kennels the compiler has been raking in order to swell the bulk of his volume, they may read the following *witty* story.

'DUTCH DELICACY.

'The Hollanders keep their apartments religiously clean, and, to prevent their being dirtied by the consequences of smoking, sit round the room in a circle, and he who has occasion to spit spits into his neighbour's mouth, who passes it on to another, and he to a third, until it gets into the mouth of the man who sits next the door, who passes it out of the room.' P. 8.

ART. 56.—*The Life and Campaigns of General Suworow, Conqueror of Italy. By an Officer.* 12mo. 2s. *sewed.* Hurst. 1801.

The actions of this celebrated warrior are particularised, in the volume before us, from his birth to his death. It might naturally be expected that a work written by an officer should lean a little to the side of his own country; and whenever it becomes necessary to

Digitized by Google

hint at parties, the author shows the direction of his bias; but in the main the performance is extremely impartial, and the relations are given in a much better flow of language than is always to be met with from a soldier.

The conclusion manifests the instability of every dependence upon princes:

'Sic transit gloria mundi.'

ART. 57.—*The Science of Teaching, applied to Elocution, Poetry, the Sublime of Scripture, and History, with a novel and improved Arrangement of the latter, for the Use of classical Pupils. By David Morrice.* 12mo. 3s. *Boards.* Lackington *and* Co. 1801.

Some miscellaneous remarks on the art of speaking, poetry, &c. dignified with a title-page of too much expectation. The novel and improved arrangement of the latter is only a chronological table, which, by giving to one side of the column, containing dates, the sacred, and the other the profane history, leaves frequently half the page a blank space. The whole wears too much the appearance of mere book-making.

ART. 58.—*Observations on Mr. Dundas's Letter of the 30th of June,* 1801, *to the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the East-India Company.* 8vo. 1s. Jordan. 1801.

A reproof of Mr. Dundas, who in 1784 proposed that the commissioners of control should be persons already in office, and receive no new emolument; but in 1793 he and the commissioners secured each 5000*l.* yearly, and in 1801 he retires with a letter of good advice and a pension of 2000*l.* a-year. But such matters are now viewed with complete apathy by the nation at large, and this apathy extends to yet greater objects; for the contempt of the late ministry for the public opinion, and, yet more, the unhappy violence to which they subjected it, have produced effects which might easily have been foreseen; and, in case of real danger, the consequent palsy would be found highly dangerous. As even the weakest of the alarmists seem now to be satisfied that there is no internal jeopardy, every mean should be used gently to revive and stimulate the public opinion, which would be found favorable to pacific measures, and of course to the present ministry.

ART. 59.—*A Dissertation on the Progress of the fine Arts. By John Robert Scott, D.D.* 4to. 3s. White.

A trivial declamation in praise of the fine arts.—The only thing worth notice is a note on the fate of a young artist called Proctor, which we shall transcribe.

'The fate of this ingenious youth deserves to be distinctly recorded. Born of humble parentage in one of the more distant counties, he had early manifested an admiration of the arts, and, being admitted a student of the Royal Academy, eminently distinguished himself there by his abilities and his industry. Applying peculiarly to sculpture, soon after the termination of his studies in the academy

Digitized by Google

he exhibited, at its annual exhibition in Somerset-place, two models of unrivaled excellence, which might, without fear of deterioration, have been placed in competition with the happiest productions of the best days of Grecian art, and which at the time met with their well-earned applause. But, alas! applause was his only reward: no wealthy patron took him by the hand, no affluent lover of the arts inquired into, or assisted, his circumstances; and his means being very confined, misery was his portion. He had however the soul of an artist, and for a length of time bore up with manly fortitude against his distresses. The present worthy president of the Royal Academy, suspecting his situation, with the aid of the council obtained for him from the Academy an annuity of 100*l.* a year, to enable him to go to Italy, and improve himself there: but the unhappy youth had unavoidably contracted some trifling debts, which he was utterly unable to discharge, and his mind was too delicately alive to every finer feeling to bear the thought of leaving this country without paying them. This circumstance, preying on his agitated spirits, and on a frame emaciated by the severest distress, caused his speedy dissolution, to the irreparable injury of the arts. After his death it was discovered that, for the last two years of his life, he had resided in a miserable cock-loft in the worst house in Clare-market, which he had rented for a shilling a week; and that his daily sustenance for that time had been only two dry biscuits, with a draft of water from the market pump." P. 32.

ART. 60.—*Morality united with Policy; or, Reflexions on the old and new Government of France; and on various important Topics of Civil and Ecclesiastical Reform. By Robert Fellowes, A. B. &c.* 12mo. 2*s.* 6*d.* White. 1801.

True policy cannot be separated from morality; but the different interests which sway the sovereign and the people in most countries have hitherto rendered the union rather a question to be discussed in the regions of Utopia, than a problem to be reduced into practice in real life. History, however, instructs us in the lamentable truth, that, from the want of this union, very disastrous are the consequences to every country. A corrupt government naturally corrupts the people; the corruption of the people re-acts upon the government; the name of reform is treated with derision, till it is too late to introduce it, or till at length, the accumulation of abuses destroying the connexion between the sovereign and the people, the destruction of the former, produced by the anarchy and sedition of the latter, removes an ancient system, to pave the way for follies perhaps in the opposite extreme. Our author endeavours to palliate the tyranny of the old French government. There were few victims indeed in its Bastille; but the terror of it was as grating to an enlightened people as the cruelties exercised in it to the grosser feelings of their ancestors. The despotism of the last monarch was exercised with great moderation; yet France lamented the destruction of its constitution, and panted for the restoration of its three estates. The French, agreeably to their natural levity, have rushed into the grossest absurdities, mingled with the most sanguinary atrocities; yet this

Digitized by Google

ill conduct is rather a proof than an excuse of the crimes and follies of former reigns, in which, from neglect of the opportunities of correcting evils when every reform would have been accepted as a favour from the monarch, the power was thrown into hands incapable of exercising it with temper and discretion.

The sovereignty of the people, which has been treated with so much folly and rancour among ourselves, is shown to be only an innocuous sound. 'The phraseology honours the government at least as much as it flatters the people;' for—

'It cannot be denied but that all governments, whether they be free or despotic, owe their strength and their security to the consent of the people. If they did not originate from their choice, they must be maintained by their consent. For no government can long stand if the people will its destruction. Their will, therefore, is sovereign; and is the real and essential base of all political sovereignty.' P. 41.

This question being settled, the good of the people is maintained to be the end of government; and that good cannot be neglected by any ministry without a violation of justice and humanity. Hence the real sovereignty, to which both princes and people are bound to submit, consists in the laws of religion and morality; and when they are neglected, the days of St. Bartholomew or the days of Robespierre are the necessary punishments for the wickedness of those who break the higher laws of Providence. Our author, after such observations, proceeds to the important question of reform, particularly of a religious reform in his own country; on which head the scandalous advertisements for the sale of livings, and the stock-jobbing traffic in preferments, are reprobated with due severity. Some obnoxious parts in our otherwise excellent Liturgy are censured as deserving of erasure; and a temperate alteration in the Articles is recommended. Tithes are judiciously defended, and a church establishment praised. The reform in the representation of the people is made to rest upon property; and these various reforms are recommended with great propriety to the present minister. The following observation will show the impartiality and sound sense of the writer.

'I am neither the foe nor the partisan, neither the panegyrist nor the calumniator, of the minister nor of the opposition; but truth compels me to declare, that there has been a great and prominent tendency in some late measures of taxation to depress the middle orders, and totally to extinguish mediocrity of fortune. Such measures accelerate the progress of a country towards slavery and wretchedness, and are ominous indications of wasting happiness and expiring freedom: for the middle classes are the only safe and solid rampart against arbitrary power on one side, and tumultuous disorder on the other.' P. 98.

Digitized by Google

APPENDIX

TO

THE THIRTY-FOURTH VOLUME

OF THE

NEW ARRANGEMENT

OF THE

CRITICAL REVIEW.

ART. I.—*Traité de Minéralogie, par le Citoyen Hauy, Membre de l'Institut National des Sciences et des Arts, &c. Publié par le Conseil des Mines, en Cinque Volumes, dont un contient 86 Planches.* 8vo. Paris. 1801.

Treatise on Mineralogy, by M. Hauy, Member of the National Institute of Sciences and Arts, &c. Published by the Council of Mines. 5 Vols. with 86 Plates. Imported by De Boffe.

THIS work claims our attention on many accounts; and to examine its object and plan is more than sufficient for a single article. Should we not be prevented by an English translation, we shall return to it in another Appendix. Let us however observe, that, if such a version be in contemplation, we would recommend adding to it the Abstract of Werner's Orictognostic Classification of Minerals by M. Daubuisson. It is more clear and intelligible than the original, which, nevertheless, with more than common precision and minuteness of distinction, contains much valuable information, though in a style that must disgust and even repel a reader of common resolution. The abstract is not without its repellent powers; but they may be conquered by a little exertion *. To return however to M. Hauy's Treatise of Mineralogy.

---

* At the moment of writing this part of our article, we received the first volume of an Elementary Treatise of Mineralogy, by M. Brochant, engineer of mines. We have looked it over cursorily, and think it possesses considerable merit; and perceive that it is spoken of with great respect by M. Hauy. We now mention it not only to announce the publication, but to remark that it unites the precision of the school of Werner with M. Hauy's geometrical accuracy. It contains a more copious and correct view of Werner's language and manner of description than even the translation of Madame Picardet. It must indeed be remembered, that the translation which we noticed in a former volume of our journal was from

Digitized by Google

In our 62d volume, O. S. (p. 55), when examining a distinct treatise of Romé de l'Isle 'on the exterior character of minerals,' we noticed the different classifications, and particularly adverted, as the work led us, to the form of crystals, as a constant unchangeable character. We resumed the subject in our review of Daubenton's *Tableau de Minéralogie*, and have since noticed it in every work where it has occurred. Unfortunately, the form of the crystals has been little attended to by any English author; and even Mr. Kirwan, in his last edition, though he has adopted the language and much of the precision of the school of Werner, has not noticed the form and the angles of crystals, and has even spoken of crystallography with contempt. It has been observed, and the remark has been often repeated in this journal, that the two contending classes of mineralogists—those who depend chiefly on external characters as the means of distinguishing minerals, and those who think that the distinctions must be drawn from chemical analysis—should naturally yield to each other, and unite their powers. We particularly pointed out this union in our review of M. Daubenton's Table, where the advantages of the union were particularly conspicuous; and we now find our ideas coincide with those of M. Hauy, the chief supporter of the system of crystallisation, the most striking of the external forms. To chemistry, he observes, must belong the determination of species. 'It may be more proper to say that it completes this determination, in showing us the "principal molecules," of which the "integrant molecules," the crystals, are assemblages. We can already perceive, and we shall in future find many examples of this truth, how important it is that the inquiries respecting these two kinds of molecules should be directed to one common object, that the chemist and mineralogist should mutually assist each other; and that the goniometer, which furnishes the data requisite to the calculation of crystalline forms, should be joined with the balance which weighs the product of the analysis.'

In this system, M. Hauy follows that of the chemical mineralogist; but the varieties are distinguished by the crystalline form, which in our author's hands is a science almost wholly new; and we believe he is right in asserting, that no varieties have been determined by the crystallographer which analysis has not confirmed.

---

an early work of Werner; and that the German mineralogist has extended his language with the enlargement of the science, in consequence of new discoveries. Only the first volume of M. Brochant's work has yet appeared, and it contains the 'earths and stones,' though an appendix to these will be added. He speaks as if the other classes were to be comprised in another volume; but this is impracticable.

Digitized by Google

'The theory employed to develop these laws (viz. of crystallisation) rests on a fact which has been hitherto supposed rather than demonstrated. It consists in this, that the minute solids which are the elements of crystals, *and which I call the integrant molecules*, have, in every individual belonging to the same species, an invariable form; the planes of which are, in the direction of the natural joints, pointed out by the mechanical division of these crystals, whose respective angles and dimensions are ascertained by calculation joined with observation. Added to this, the integrant molecules relative to different species are more or less pointedly different, except in a very few cases, where the forms have regular characters, and constitute the connexion between different species. The determination therefore of integral molecules has a considerable influence on that of species; and this consideration has often conducted me, either in subdividing into many species a group which in the common methods created one alone, or in uniting the scattered limbs of a single species, of which many distinct ones had been made.'

'The result of my labours, supposing them to be as complete as possible, can only be regarded as an introduction to the study of nature. The different substances of which this globe consists, placed in their respective positions by the concurrence of the causes, *whose actions the Supreme Being has directed to the end which seemed most suitable to his wisdom*, offer a spectacle wholly new, even to the eye most experienced in viewing minerals brought from their native beds to our cabinets. Here we behold them arranged and disposed in a systematic order; but nature, on every side despising the artificial limits traced by our systems, separates what we have united, and confounds what we have chosen to separate. On one side she disjoins, by striking contrasts, substances which touch and adhere to each other; on the other, she manages those progressive changes from one substance to another, those successions of shades, which say to an attentive and enlightened observer, Here we no longer belong either to *this* fossil or *that*.'

M. Hauy next explains his own plan of arrangement, and the circumstances which influence him in forming his genera from species and varieties. We own that we wished to have enlarged on this subject; to have shown that Buffon had in this place committed a fundamental error in his celebrated canon—that science formed species; and that Werner's method was equally erroneous. The method of determining species, the most important part of classification, employed by botanists and zoölogists, cannot here be practised; and the philosopher must, in part, be directed by his own opinions,

Digitized by Google

perhaps by his fancy. M. Hauy's system is the least exceptionable of any. He adopts, as we have said, in his more extensive arrangements, the chemical analysis; but, in species, the more constant and obvious characters, particularly the form of the crystals: yet, as this is the most distinguished part of the present work, it is necessary to enlarge farther on it, especially—we speak it with regret—as this part of mineralogy has been too much neglected by English mineralogists.

Minerals have nothing constant in their external aspect; and, to recognise species concealed under an uncommon form, much ingenuity is often required. M. Hauy's dexterity demands our praise. An accidental observation led him to subdivide the hexaëdral prism of carbonated lime in the direction of his laminæ; and he discovered a rhomboidal nucleus similar to the bodies called Iceland spar. Other calcareous crystals, examined in the same manner, afforded a similar result. From these observations, combined with many others on minerals of very different kinds, he concluded that crystals belonging to the same species contained a nucleus, which was a solid that might be styled the primitive form. On subdividing the different nuclei determined from observation, he ascertained the form of what he calls the 'integrant molecules,' which, in every known mineral, are only three in number, and of peculiar simplicity; viz. the regular tetraëdon, the triangular prism, and the parallelopiped. In studying the progressive structure of what may be called the secondary forms, he conceived that they might result from a superposition of laminæ, which, departing from the primitive structure, might decrease by a regular subtraction of one or more ranks of integrant molecules. This departure may sometimes take place from the sides of the nucleus, and sometimes from its angles. To these subtractions he gives the appellation of 'laws of decrease;' and from this point begins a series of rigorous geometrical calculation, which we cannot abridge. This calculation conducts him to a precise determination of the angles, planes, and solids, of the secondary forms; and the constant agreement between the angles, produced by calculation and by observation, is the best demonstration of the truth of the laws. A general formula thus becomes, in the hands of the author, an instrument, by means of which, without any difficulty, with the assistance of some undoubted facts, he determines not only the forms hitherto known, but all those which *can* occur, and of which many certainly exist in nature; thus anticipating future discoveries. His inquiries into the nature of crystals have conducted him to this general principle,—'that all those which belong to the same species are composed of similar integrant molecules, the form and dimensions of which are determined by observation, assisted by calculation.' From the consideration of these molecules, he

Digitized by Google

has reduced to the same species bodies arranged in molecules widely different, and separated those formerly associated without sufficient foundation. In all these instances, as we have already remarked—to adopt his own words—chemical analysis has supported the arrangement of the crystallographer.

Romé de l'Isle, whose work is spoken of by our author with great respect,—and which in truth contains a vast treasure of mineralogical information,—established *his* species from the forms combined with concomitant hardness and specific gravity; but he stopped at the surface, instead of penetrating the interior mechanism of the structure. He suspected that there were primitive forms, but he did not always ascertain them with accuracy: they are chosen indiscriminately; and many are very distant from the true ones, ascertained by mechanical division. He was embarrassed also in the application of his principle to the secondary forms, which retain no resemblance of the adopted primitive; and, in consequence of this difficulty, he sometimes admits two different primitive forms in each species. On the contrary, by the assistance of our author's theory, we may be certain of discovering whether any given form can exist among the varieties of a particular species, or whether it should be excluded from it. What is of more consequence, this naturalist, instead of stopping at the primitive forms themselves, afforded by mechanical division, which are the only data proper to facilitate the applications of his theory, has taken, for the foundation of his species, the elements of the crystallisation; that is, the integrant molecules resulting from the subdivision of the primitive forms, and which often differ from them. It was calculation only—a mean which De l'Isle has not employed—that could establish the specific differences between the molecules of the same genus: such are those between the equilateral triangular prism, and the prism with square bases, in determining the particular relation which exists in each species between the dimensions of the prism that nature employs in the production of crystals which belong to this species.

About the time when M. Hauy published his first essays on the structure of minerals, the Academy of Sciences received a memoir from M. Bergman, in which he proposed the reduction of all the figures of calcareous spar to the primitive rhomboid. He had remarked the position of the nucleus in the dodecaëdron with scalene triangular faces, of the variety styled the 'hog's-toothed spar.' He considered it as produced by the superposition of planes, which decreased around the primitive rhomboid, in separating from the lateral angles. He even verified this explanation by fracture, which is wholly conformable to nature; but he stopped short at this first view, and did not think of determining, by the help of calculation,

Digitized by Google

either the laws of decrease, or the form of the integrant molecules. With respect to the secondary figures, he indulged some hypothetical conjectures, scarcely supported by observation—a remarkable example of the failure of the most acute genius, when not assisted by more rigorous methods of inquiry. By founding crystallography on calculation, M. Hauy has created a science which no fashion can destroy: it rests on a foundation as certain as the Newtonian system of the world; and has contributed to fill many vacuities in the series, which were apparently wanting in former systems. The reader will find that the author's theory is simple in its method, certain in its principles—resting on facts afforded by undoubted observation and unequivocal evidence. It reposes on this—the existence of a primitive form, the faces of which coincide with the natural joints of crystals; and the whole is supported *so far* by the nature of every known mineral. It is indeed so well founded and supported, that it has often anticipated analysis, and has been supported in turn by chemical investigation. In this work the system is explained in two ways; viz. by reasoning, assisted by figures, which illustrate the progress of the decrease; 2dly, by analysis, which supposes only a common acquaintance with geometry. Some new geometrical properties are interspersed, which would, independent of mineralogy, interest the geometer.

The species in this work are determined by characters, the most constant and the most unexceptionable, as they are connected with the constitution of the integrant molecule. They are of three kinds, viz. physical, geometrical, and chemical. Among the former are, the specific gravity ascertained by Mr. Nicholson's hydrometer, at 14° of Reaumur; hardness, ascertained by the property of scratching a given body; refraction of light, showing objects single or double; electricity, acquired by heat or rubbing; and phosphorescence, either in consequence of rubbing, or the projection of its powder on hot coals. The geometrical characters are those afforded by a mechanical division, joined to a measure of the angles, which together form the natural joints. The chemical characters are those ascertained by the most simple and easy experiments, with the blow-pipe, acids, or alkalis.

After describing each species in all these views, it is subdivided into varieties, of which some relate to the forms, either regular or undeterminable; others to the 'accidents of light,' that is, to the colours and transparency. Each regular form is first represented by a sign composed of letters and ciphers, which show the 'laws of decrease,' on which the form depends; and next by a figure in projection, which is in some measure a portrait. Each species is also characterised by pointing out the principal angles, in which its relation to the other

Digitized by Google

varieties consists. The undeterminable forms are distinguished by characters drawn from the most remarkably obvious properties; and the accidents of light, which constitute the last shade of the picture, are described in general terms, chiefly drawn from familiar language. Each variety of form, whether regular or undeterminable, has its particular appellation; and, by joining this expression with its colour and transparency, the denomination is complete. We regret only that the *essential* discriminating characters are not retained in a separate section and a more concise appearance.

The analyses are those of Klaproth and Vauquelin; and from these the genera and orders are deduced. Thus each science contributes to the formation of the present system; and to each substance is subjoined its history, the different opinions of mineralogists, the foundation of their mistakes, and the means by which the truth was ascertained. To this the author adds an account of the strata,—though by no means so full and complete as in the work of his successor Brochant, lately alluded to,—as well as the use of each mineral in the arts, in domestic œconomy, and in medicine. Lapidaries, and those who are fond of the precious stones as ornamental decorations, will in this publication find methods of correcting the ideas usually derived from their colour. He gives an explanation of the different phænomena which depend on philosophical principles; as, the transparency of hydrophanous stones, in consequence of their absorbing water; the beautiful reflected irises of the opal, owing to slight fissures, which interrupt its continuity. The double refraction of the Iceland crystal claims his particular attention, as well as what relates to the electricity of minerals. On the latter subject, the most remarkable circumstances are—1. the different nature of the two electricities, usually situate near the opposite points of the crystal; 2. the constant relation which exists between the position of these two electricities, and the forms of the body, when regularly crystallised, which derogate from the symmetry so common in the crystals of other substances; from which a method of determining the positions of the two electricities, on inspection of the crystal, will follow. Our author adopts the system of M. Coulumb respecting two fluids of this kind, which he thinks will connect all the facts relating to the electricity of minerals. In this point, however, he is not always successful. On magnetism the author offers some new observations, and has shown that a much greater number of bodies possess polar magnetism than has hitherto been supposed.

The style of this work is peculiarly clear and philosophical: it sometimes rises to a polished elegance, without any affectation of ornament. We mean to return to it, if our other claims will allow; but, lest we should be prevented, or the work be

Digitized by Google

brought more directly within the reader's view by an English translation, we shall subjoin our author's arrangement; adding only that his index is tolerably full, which—as we still want a dictionary of mineralogy, a work we have anxiously wished for, and often recommended—is an object of no little consequence. Should M. Brochant's treatise have this valuable addition, it will be a publication of the highest importance, as he has annexed the synonyms of various modern authors, scarcely heard of but in Germany. M. Hauy's synonyms are not numerous, but they are select; and he particularly refers to Bergman, to Kirwan, Romé de l'Isle, and M. Brochant, whose first volume he had seen, while M. Brochant was perusing the present treatise in manuscript; so that the references to each are constant and exact.

Minerals are divided into four classes; earthy and neutral salts, earths, inflammables, and metals. The orders of the first class are,—1. earthy acidiferous substances; 2. terreous; 3. alkalino-terreous. Of the second class there are no orders or genera. The species follow each other. The reason for the neglect of divisions subordinate to the classes we cannot easily perceive: but it may be owing to the obvious nature of many earths which are very different from what they would appear from analysis. Thus some apparently pure clays contain a much larger proportion of silex than of alumine. The third class is divided into simple and compound inflammables. Among the former are sulphur, the diamond, and anthracite; among the latter amber, jet, and the different coals. The first order of the metallic bodies contains those not immediately oxydable, except with a violent heat, and immediately reducible; the second, those which are more easily oxydable, but immediately reducible; the third, those which are oxydable, and not immediately reducible.

The first appendix contains the substances, whose nature is not sufficiently ascertained to admit of their arrangement; but among these there are some sufficiently known to be introduced into the former classes, though not yet accurately analysed. The second appendix contains the different aggregates. The first order comprises the 'rocks' of primitive formation; the second, the clays and lime-stones of secondary formation, more evidently from alluvion; the third, the aggregates composed of fragments, as the pudding-stone, &c. The third appendix contains the volcanic products. These are divided into six classes,—1. the lavas; 2. the thermantides, which have the marks of a less intense fire; 3. the products of sublimation; 4. the decomposed lavas; 5. the tufas; 6. the substances formed subsequent to the melting and cooling. To these are added substances modified by the heat of subterraneous fires, not volcanic. The first class is divided into the stony, the

Digitized by Google

scorified, and the vitreous lavas. The others admit of no subdivision.

A volume of plates is added, containing the representation of the primitive crystals, with the laws of decrease; to which is prefixed a system of the characters relating to minerals. This may be styled a delineation of a mineral, resembling Linnæus's Delineatio Plantæ, exhibiting a description of the various characters of minerals under distinct heads, with the most striking examples in the mineral kingdom.

ART. II.—*Mémoires Sécrets sur la Russie, &c.*

Secret Memoirs concerning Russia, and particularly towards the End of the Reign of Catharine II. and the Beginning of that of Paul I.: forming a Picture of the Manners of Petersburg at the Termination of the Eighteenth Century; and containing a Number of Anecdotes, collected during a Residence of ten Years, &c. &c. 3 *Vols.* 8vo. Amsterdam (*probably* Paris). Imported by De Boffe. 1802.

WE are sufficiently on our guard with respect to the numerous pretended memoirs that are printed in the French language. Of late years, Soulavie and others have published many fictitious pieces, sometimes too largely dilated, and at others even artfully forged. In the publication of memoirs, the production of the original manuscript ought to be insisted on; for any man of moderate talents, and a general knowledge of some events and intrigues, might easily contrive what are called memoirs, and give such a colour to his style as to make them pass for genuine.

Impressed with this consideration, we took up the present work with no small degree of distrust, which vanished, after a time, on perceiving the exuberance of singular anecdotes, and the knowledge, spirit, and character of the present narrative, which is deeply tinged with an intimate acquaintance with Russia and the events that have recently happened in that extraordinary empire: yet the style is too satirical; and the author, who seems to have been dismissed from the Russian service by Paul, exceeds the severity of Suetonius or Tacitus. His production may indeed be termed historical satire, though he sometimes labours to impart an appearance of candour by inserting a sentence or two of praise. His anecdotes would have borne more weight, if he had dedicated some chapters to an account of the splendid actions of Catharine, and a favorable representation of many events, instead of viewing only their shady side: yet the work has great merit, as forming a striking contrast to those

Digitized by Google

which our own countryman, Mr. Tooke, has compiled principally from the German concerning Russia, and which are too much impressed with that tame and servile character which our present author justly imputes to the German productions concerning that potent empire. In Mr. Tooke's work the greatest crimes of the rulers are passed in silence, and every thing is painted in the most favorable colours. The slavish appellation of *the residence* is applied to Petersburg, &c. because the emperor resides there; and the whole history partakes too much of eulogy or panegyric to satisfy an unbiased inquirer. Here, on the contrary, and in the travels of Chappe, there is too much of satire and detraction; but they balance the account, and leave a just general impression concerning Russia.

In the preface the author apologises for his style, as that of a Frenchman who left his country in his infancy. He says that the proscription of which he was a victim in Russia did not inspire him with the design of these memoirs, though his indignation had imparted courage enough to publish them. He adds, that they were begun long since in the palace of the tzars, but that many of the materials were lost on his leaving the country. He mentions the German writings concerning Russia, as the works of fawning and interested adulators, with the exception of those of count Sternberg, and some other late productions, which seem to have opened the eyes of the Germans with regard to the usurping and domineering character of their powerful neighbour. An advertisement is prefixed by the editor, from which we learn that the author quitted Russia in 1797.

The work is divided into chapters of considerable length; those in the first volume relate to the king of Sweden's visit to Petersburg; the last illness and death of Catharine II.; her favorites and debaucheries; the accession of Paul; with an inquiry, not a little curious for the period, whether he had reason to fear the fate of Peter the Third.

Such is the exuberance of anecdotes and interesting matter, that there is a difficulty in forming a choice of some extracts for the entertainment of our readers: we shall therefore take a few here and there, without further premeditation, after having premised that some of the most curious are to be found in the notes.

'Of all the embassadors employed by Catharine, the count Stackelberg displayed the most wit and pride, particularly in Poland. Thugut having been sent thither by the emperor of Germany, was, on the day of being admitted to an audience by the Polish monarch, introduced into a saloon, where, seeing a man gravely seated, and surrounded by Polish lords who were standing respectfully before him, Thugut took him for the king,

Digitized by Google

and began his compliment. Stackelberg did not hasten to undeceive him; and when the Austrian envoy discovered the mistake, he was greatly piqued and ashamed. That evening, playing at cards with the king and Stackelberg, he threw down a card, saying "the king of clubs." "A mistake," said the monarch, "it is the knave." The Austrian, pretending no design, struck his forehead, and exclaimed, "Ah, sire! pardon me—this is the second time to-day that I have taken a knave for a king!" Stackelberg, though very prompt at repartee, could only bite his lips.'

The interruption of the marriage between the king of Sweden and the grand-daughter of Catharine forms a curious circumstance in this narrative. The transition of the young lady from the Greek faith to the Protestant having been fanatically opposed by the Russian clergy, Catharine, in the plenitude of female will, resolved to make a queen of Sweden of the Greek religion, with a chapel, and numerous priests devoted to the Russian interests. A clause to this effect was introduced into the contract, which was to have been signed on the tenth of September O. S.

'On that day the happy, the imperious Catharine, underwent the greatest chagrin, and even humiliation, that she had ever encountered. All the court was ordered to assemble in gala, in the chamber of the throne: the young princess, dressed as a bride, and accompanied by her sisters, the grand dukes and their wives, all the ladies, all the gentlemen,—and the grand duke Paul, father of the bride, with the grand duchess, having come from Gatschina to witness the espousals of their daughter,—assembled at seven o'clock in the evening: the empress arrived in all her pomp, and none was absent except the future husband, whose want of punctuality surprised every body. Frequent entrances and departures of the prince Zoubof, who was to arrange the affair of the contract and procure the final signature of the Swedish monarch, and the visible impatience which the empress displayed, soon excited the curiosity and the whispers of the ladies. What has happened? Is the king ill? He is at least not very gallant! How dares he make the *sovereign* wait so in the chamber of her throne, and her whole court assembled? Meanwhile this king, who was waited for with as much impatience as the husband of the eleven thousand virgins, did not appear.

'This strange delay was occasioned by the following circumstances. The king of Sweden was to have gone to court at seven o'clock in the evening: at six o'clock the diplomatic Markof brought him the contract and the articles of the alliance, which he had drawn up in conjunction with Zoubof. Gustavus having carefully perused them, appeared much astonished at

Digitized by Google

discovering articles which he had not settled with the empress, and inquired if she had sent to request his signature of such conditions?

'Markof having answered in the affirmative, the king replied, that the matter was an absolute impossibility. He observed that he did not wish to constrain the conscience of the princess; that she was welcome to the private profession of her religion; but that he could not grant a Greek chapel, or clergy, the royal palace of Sweden; and that in public, and on all days of ceremony, she must, on the contrary, profess the religion of the country. Imagine the surprise and embarrassment of the shallow Markof: he was obliged to take back his papers, and to tell Zoubof that the king refused to sign. Markof, soon returned in the greatest agitation, to say that the empress had already arrived in the chamber of the throne, where the whole court was assembled; that it was not possible for him to speak to her; that she expected the king, and it was hoped that he would not make a rupture—that would be an unheard-of affront to the sovereign, to the young princess, and the whole empire. Besborodko and many others came successively, exhorting, pressing, entreating the king to yield; and all the Swedes who were called in were of that opinion. The regent was content with saying that it depended on the king; yet he took him apart, and walked round the chamber, talking to him in whispers; while the king answered him in a loud voice, "No, no; I will not, I cannot, I will not sign."

Yet the affair seems to have been preconcerted.—The demand of a chapel and priests is precedented in England in the reign of Charles the First; and religion rarely appears as a real political cause in modern times. After a short period, pretexts might have been found to shut up the chapel, and dismiss the Russian clergy. The princess certainly suffered greatly by the sudden explosion; and the feelings of Gustavus should have prevented the affair from proceeding to such a crisis: nor do any offers of modification appear to have been made on the Swedish side. Yet it is possible that a spirited and sensible prince might be impressed with sudden and irresistible resentment at the insult offered to his understanding by the sudden introduction of degrading articles, particularly if he regarded the clauses concerning the Greek church, &c. as assertions of a pretended superiority of the Russian empire over his kingdom. The empress, according to our author, was quite confounded, and stammered greatly when she heard the king's final determination; and immediately left the court, pretending illness; while she was, in fact, seised with a slight degree of that apoplexy which, not long after, terminated her existence.

The account of the Polish embassy, vol. i. p. 61, is not a

Digitized by Google

little singular, as it shows what a complete perversion of intellect despotism may introduce. The embassador said that the empress had spoken, and *despotism*, which was ready to seise the throne of Poland, had fallen like an idol. The despotism was the Polish constitution of the 3d of May! A pamphlet was also published under her auspices, in which all the grandees of Poland were called Jacobins, and the king a factious fellow. The violation of justice is commonly attended with the violation of truth.

Catharine affected at first to neglect the French revolution; but, after the sudden death of the emperor Leopold, and the assassination of the Swedish king, she began to tremble, haunted perhaps by remorse; for they were innocent monarchs; and she was stained with a husband's blood, the deep tint of which was increased with the scarlet of other murders. She ordered the bust of Voltaire to be withdrawn from her gallery; and Fox having opposed the war against France, his bust was also concealed: *Et præcellebant, quia imagines eorum non visebantur.*

From vol. i. p. 111, we learn that a lieutenant of the police at Petersburg was so ignorant as to confiscate Tissot's medical work called *Advice to the People;* saying that the people had no occasion for any advice, and that it must be a very dangerous book. But our memoirist certainly pushes his satirism too far when he asserts that no good work was produced in Russia during the reign of Catharine II. except the Travels of Pallas and the Historical Researches of Müller, the latter being celebrated by the adage of Voltaire, whose ridiculous and pretended history of Peter I. he had criticised:—'He is a German. I wish him more sense and fewer consonants.'

From vol. i. p. 126, we learn that 240 towns are said to have been built by Catharine; while the greater part were miserable hamlets, the name only being changed by imperial edict, just as the wise emperor Paul ordered that every yacht should be called a frigate; and some of these miserable towns do not consist of houses, but of a post stuck up with a name upon it, the building being left to posterity. Our author observes, with republican spirit, upon this occasion, that despots can build nothing except prisons and barracks; but supposing men to be storks, they think if they set up a wheel they can build a nest; while cities can only be founded by commerce and liberty. It is, however, rather a blemish in this work that the author sometimes betrays too intolerant principles and too warm an attachment to his own party. When Catharine met the emperor Joseph, she invited him to lay the second stone of a city of which she laid the first. The emperor sarcastically observed, 'I have finished a great business in one day with the empress of Russia. She laid the first stone of a town, and I the last.'

The German descriptions of Petersburg are blamed by the

Digitized by Google

author as flattering and overcharged. He remarks a singular mistake of professor Giorgi. 'He does the author of these memoirs the honour of naming him among the literary men; but confounding names, quality, and works, he makes only one person of general Melissino, major M. and his brother: and yet he was at Petersburg and knew them all! After this you may trust such descriptions, if you please.'

From this perhaps the skilful may guess the name of the author.

'At Petersburg the Germans are artists or tradesmen, particularly tailors and shoemakers—the English, sadlers or merchants—the Italians, architects, singers, and sculptors: but we do not know what the French are, as they change their employments every year. They often arrive as lacqueys, and become counsellors, or any thing. Sometimes a Frenchman is one year an actor, another a private tutor, another a merchant, another a musician, another an officer in the army; when he begins his round again, or becomes what he pleases. No-where are your Frenchmen observed to be more inconstant, enterprising, ingenious, and fit for any thing.

'To perceive the manners and character of each nation, you must visit the interior of the houses; for in the streets all is Russian. The French amuse themselves with plays of wit, supping gaily, and singing merry songs; the English dine at five o'clock, drink punch, and chatter trade; the Italians have music, dance, laugh, and gesticulate, when their conversation turns on shows and the arts; the Germans talk of the sciences, smoke tobacco, discuss and eat deeply, and pay each other a great number of compliments. Among the Russians every thing is *pell-mell*; but gaming is the chief pursuit, being the soul of their societies and pleasures, though not to the exclusion of other diversions. The stranger, particularly the Frenchman, was surprised and enchanted, after having visited the inhospitable shores of Prussia, and the wild plains of Livonia, to find in the midst of a vast desert an immense and superb city, with societies, pleasures, arts, and tastes, which he had conceived only to exist in Paris.'

At the palace of Tzarsko Selo, which stands in a marshy desert, there is a strange mixture of monuments, erected in honour of the Russian victors, of favorite dogs, and of Lanskoi the most beloved favourite of the late empress; whence our author sarcastically infers, that a hero, a dog, and a lover, must be much the same object in the eyes of a female despot.

The chapter concerning the favorites is too much in the style of Suetonius to admit of any extract. In the next chapter the author considers the accession of Paul. By his account, it is

Digitized by Google

pretty generally believed at the court of Russia that Paul was the son of Soltykof, one of the first favorites of Catharine; and that in person he had no resemblance whatever to Peter the Third; while he was equally unlike his mother. At first he displayed goodness of heart, and other amiable qualities, which the cruelty of his mother stifled by bad treatment, and a constant series of repeated vexations, which an embittered female alone would have imagined or employed. He was kept in nonage by the usurper of his throne, not admitted to see his own children, surrounded with spies, constrained, harassed, humiliated, living retired and insignificant, and sometimes in want of common necessaries; while the minions of his mother were wallowing in profuse wealth. She thus succeeded in rendering him peevish, distrustful, harsh, whimsical, suspicious, and cruel. Like any other animal constantly teased, his original habits were completely altered.

These observations impress an appearance of truth and candour on the subsequent narrative of Paul's despotic oddities. Accustomed to be vexed in trifles, his attention was chiefly directed towards them; while, if they had never given him pain, his mind might, in the contemplation of great objects, have passed the smaller with complete indifference. His trifling regulations sometimes led to serious and dreadful consequences.

'The brigadier-general Likarof being taken ill at his country-house near Petersburg, his affectionate wife would trust no messenger, but went herself to the city to bring a physician. People in the country did not yet know the new emperor, and still less his new regulations. Having ordered her servants to make all the speed possible, her carriage unhappily passed, without stopping, at a short distance from Paul, who was on horseback. In a rage, he immediately sent an aide-de-camp, who stopped the equipage, ordered the four servants to be enlisted as soldiers, and the impertinent lady to be sent to jail. These orders were executed immediately; and this unhappy woman was confined for four days. This horrible treatment, and the condition in which she had left her husband, wounded her heart and affected her brain. A burning fever was the consequence; and she was carried to an hotel to be attended: but her reason was gone for ever. Her husband, thus abandoned, left without medical assistance, deprived of his wife and of his domestics, expired in despair, without ever seeing her again.'

This singular attention to trifling marks of respect, which seems to have formed the very spring of Paul's insanity, might easily be traced, by a philosophical inquirer into mental diseases, to the constant disrespect shown in trifles, which he was accustomed to suffer during the reign of his mother.

Digitized by Google

The anecdotes of Souworof, or Souwarrow, are not a little singular, but scattered at intervals through the work.

'A stranger, having heard the name of *Souworof* resound throughout Europe, might, on his first arrival in Russia, wish to see this hero. There appeared a little old man, of a lank and shriveled figure, jumping upon one leg through the apartments of the palace, or running and playing in the streets followed by a crowd of children, to whom he threw apples to make them fight, and crying to them, "*I am Souworof! I am Souworof!*"—If the stranger could with difficulty recognise in this old fool the conqueror of the Turks and of the Poles, he might, however, reasonably suspect, from the haggard and ferocious eyes, and from the frothing and horrible mouth, that this was the devourer of the inhabitants of Praga. Souworof would have only been a ridiculous buffoon if he had not been a most barbarous warrior. He was a monster who, in the body of an ape, had the soul of a butcher's dog.'

Equal compliments are by our bold author addressed to the emperor Paul during his life-time. When in his youth he visited Paris, the polite populace could not help exclaiming, '*My good God, how ugly he is!*'—And our author adds, that—

'Without offence to any savage whatever, Paul was certainly the ugliest man in his whole empire. He was himself so sensible of this deformity, that he forbade any impression of his face to appear on the current coin; which only bore his cipher, with the Scriptural phrase, "Not to us, but to thy name." A soldier suffering severely under the rod for some trifling failure in discipline, happened to exclaim, "Oh you cursed *bald head!*" An edict immediately appeared, ordering that the words *bald head*, and *snub nose*, should not be used throughout the empire under pain of death.'

We are far from pretending to warrant many of these anecdotes, which are doubtless exaggerated by the author's indignation. But, having already warned our readers of the satirical nature of this work, we translate them for their amusement, trusting the veracity to their own censure.

We now pass to the second volume, the chief chapters of which are upon the revolutions which may probably happen in Russia, the national character and religion, the influence of the fair sex, the state of education, the persecution of the French in Russia, and a description of a great festival given by prince Potemkin to Catharine.

This volume begins with some observations on the state of despotism in Russia, which our author describes as a dark atmosphere, separating the Russian from other nations, and pre-

Digitized by Google

serving them from every approach of the light of reason. After displaying his usual wit and knowledge, he observes that the Russians are nevertheless free from three capital errors which disgrace the rest of Europe. No Russian will seek to revenge an affront by committing murder in what is called a *duel*. The country has never been stained with any war or massacre occasioned by religious fanaticism. Lastly, the Russians have never regarded birth as superior to merit. Yet this last praise seems to be derived from that despotism which levels all ranks. Returning to the satirical vein, he brands drunkenness and theft as the ruling vices of the country; and he adds, ironically, that an English author, who has published a book on the resemblance between the Russians and the Greeks, and who has proved that they ate, sang, and slept, exactly like the latter, has forgotten to add that they are far superior thieves. He lays open with a skilful hand the character of the Russian soldiery, who seem absolutely to devote themselves to their trade and their commanders.

'At the siege of Oczakow, a piquet, advancing to occupy a post, were informed that it was seised by the Turks, and if they did not retreat, they would encounter certain death. "What is that to us?" said one of the soldiers: "Prince Dolgorousky must answer that." Not a man returned.

'At the attack of Kimburg by the Turks, Souworof, who was drunk, advanced at the head of the garrison to repel the enemy. The Russians bent before the first shock, and began to flee, when a soldier in a rage stopped them with his bayonet, forced them to return, and charged at their head, as if he had been their officer. Catharine, informed of this action, which was the cause of the first victory in that war, sent an officer's commission to this brave fellow: but he refused it; saying, "that he could not write, and that he would rather be a good soldier than a bad officer." The empress sent him a medal of gold, with a pension of three hundred roubles.——This great woman was, however, innately cruel: she blamed *the holy humanity*, as she termed it, of Repnin, and sent the tiger Souworof in his stead; and she said to two courtiers, who were playing at chess, "I amuse myself by killing Poles."

In his account of the manners of the Russian women, our author displays his usual spirit and intrepidity. He seems to consider the compassion commonly ascribed to the sex as rather a weakness of the nerve than a quality of the soul, and to think that, as cowards, they must necessarily be cruel.

'I am not the first who has observed that in Russia the women are generally more wicked, more cruel, and more barbarous than the men—because they are a great deal more igno-

Digitized by Google

rant and more superstitious. They do not travel, receive little instruction, and do not work at all. Always surrounded with slaves to gratify or anticipate their wishes, the Russian ladies pass their time stretched on a couch, or at a gaming table. They are seldom seen to read—still more seldom occupied in little works, or household concerns; and those whom a foreign education has not improved are in fact still barbarians.'

The author then compares them with the Roman ladies, as described by Juvenal; and offers several shocking instances of female cruelty singularly conjoined with immodesty.

Some singular anecdotes are given concerning the imperial children, who first learned the difference of sex from the lectures of Pallas on botany. The state of slavery in Russia also furnishes some curious details. The following advertisement is copied from a Russian newspaper.

'If any one wishes to buy a complete family, or a young man and a young girl apart, inquire at the silk-cleaner's opposite the church at Cavan. The young man, called Iwan, is aged twenty-one: he is healthy, stout, and can frizzle a lady's hair. The girl, who is well made and plump, is called Murpha, aged fifteen, and can sew and embroider. To be examined; and had at a reasonable price.'

The punishment of d'Orbeil, on some very trifling suspicion of Jacobinism, vol. ii. p. 193, is a shocking additional instance of Catharine's cruelty; and many examples are adduced of the fantastic despotism of Paul. But when our author proceeds, vol. ii. p. 217, to mention that a brother of Marat lived openly at Petersburg while the unhappy French were massacred at London, Vienna, Naples, and Rome, we must loudly reprobate such an absurd and injurious calumny; as it is perfectly known to every inhabitant of the British empire, that not one Frenchman was massacred, or even wounded, except in open war, throughout the united kingdom.

The third volume is not inferior in interest to the two former, and has the advantage of having been published after the death of Paul: nor can our author abstain from exulting in the just ideas which he had before presented concerning the reign of that unhappy prince. The last war in Persia, the state of the finances, the Cossacks, the expeditions against the French in Italy and Switzerland, and several historical anecdotes, compose this last volume; which also contains an appendix of original papers translated from the Russian.

The writer is uniform in his applause of the character and qualities of the reigning emperor, Alexander — whose person, as he remarks, bears some resemblance to Peter the Great. On the Persian war the details are curious and seemingly au-

Digitized by Google

thentic. But our author surely brings an unjust charge against Mr. Tooke, when he accuses him of being one of the spies who visited the Caspian to promote schemes for the English commerce. We believe, on the contrary, that Mr. Tooke never passed so far south as Moscow; and his books on Russia consist of translations from the German and French, which he might have executed in London as well as at Petersburg. There is also a long note blaming Mr. Tooke for his flattering representations respecting the Russian commerce and slavery.

The note, vol. iii. p. 103, concerning the fate of the able conductor of the mines of Kolivan, is curious, as it shows the abominable intrigues of the Russian courtiers. These mines were ruined, at least for a time, by a privilege granted to a covetous *prince* of selling brandy in Siberia, which debauched the workmen, and ruined their labours. In the chapter on the Cossaks is given a singular instance of the bad effects of geographical ignorance in war; an old map in which villages were marked, which no longer existed, having occasioned the loss of many soldiers. The subsidiary treaty between Russia and England is branded, p. 177, as the first of that degrading kind which the empire had entered into. On that coalition, our democratic author observes, 'you may here behold into what a labyrinth of contradictions and absurdities that weak diplomatic spirit wanders, which pretends to produce good by a combination of evils, and to derive true results from errors or falsehoods. Simple truths, plain principles of common sense, morality, and justice, are the eternal sources of public safety, and the prosperity of states. Wherever policy does not assume them for the basis of its speculations, it will necessarily be the most absurd of all arts, and the most pernicious to humanity.'

Our author also, p. 205, offers some severe observations on the massacre of the French envoys at Rastadt, which he boldly imputes to the then British ministry, as well as the attempt upon the life of Buonaparte by means of the infernal machine. This we regard as mere satire, like the imaginary massacre of the French in London. In a note, he seems to allow that the murder of the deputies may have been casual, proceeding, as the archduke Charles asserted, from want of discipline in an advanced post. The anecdotes of Souworof are curious. He had been disgraced by the emperor Paul, at the beginning of his reign, for inattention to fantastic edicts concerning the dress of the soldiers; but the solicitations of Austria and England prevailed on the emperor to give Souworof the command of the troops destined against France. On his road to Vienna, this sanguinary warrior exhibited affected symptoms of the grossest superstition; so that the court of Vienna was puzzled to discover whether he venerated or ridiculed the catholic creed. By

Digitized by Google

this account, he only assisted and followed up the success of the Austrian generals; and the defeat of Scherer was regarded as the most complete and disastrous which the French sustained during the whole war. But Paul, intoxicated with the success of the Russians, not only conferred on Souworof the title of Italiski, but, with his usual caprice, ordered, by an edict, that this warrior should be regarded as the greatest of all generals ancient and modern.

The account of the Russian and French conflicts in Switzerland forms another interesting chapter; and the decription of that memorable battle which decided the destinies of France in the vale of Zurich is enlivened with many anecdotes derived from an officer who was present. After the death of Hotze, and the defeat of the Russian general Korsakof, Souworof arrived too late; yet our author allows that he retreated like a lion, while Massena in vain endeavoured to entice him out of his defiles. 'He abandoned some baggage, some artillery, some sick and wounded; but general Mortier, who was charged to pursue him in the Muttenthal, could only reach two or three battalions of grenadiers, who devoted themselves to save the rest of the army. I do not know if Souworof were invincible; but it is certain that he died unconquered. No general can boast of having beaten Souworof, and very few have, like him, carried this glory to the tomb, after having persevered in war for forty years, sometimes against barbarous, and sometimes against polished nations.'

Several new anecdotes are then given of this very singular character. After the defeat of the Russians, and his own retreat, he became silent and melancholy, nor could he abstain from open blame of the Austrians. Paul embraced the same resentments; but his favorite tiger having arrived at Petersburg, alighted at the house of one of his nephews, and never afterwards arose from his bed. We should have wished for a few anecdotes of the last illness and death of Souworof, which may probably still be supplied by some foreigner residing at Petersburg. Such a combination of circumstances united to form Souworof, that Russia will probably never again produce a like character; though our author repeats the observation of the German philosopher Kant, that war is the powerful mean of dispersing nations, or assembling them together; and that, without war, there would be neither peace nor legitimate relations between them. The anger and disgust of the Russian emperor were inflamed to the utmost degree by the refusal of Malta; and he openly spoke of the English as a nation of Israelites.

In a note, p. 353, our author imputes the misfortunes of Switzerland to the pride, the political immorality, and the venality of the Bernese rulers, who sacrificed the country to their

Digitized by Google

petty interests. This opinion seems to rest on such decisive facts, that we are amazed at the want of common candour in Mr. Coxe's introduction to his last edition, which rather wears the aspect of a party pamphlet than of the calm decision of a man of letters, whose judgement may be weighed by posterity. But we have already offered some remarks on these topics in our review of Mr. Planta's History of Switzerland.

In our author's opinion, p. 370, if the coalesced powers had succeeded, they intended to have placed Lutherism and Calvinism within the pale of the catholic church, to which the Greek religion was to have been united; and the battles of Zurich and Marengo alone saved poor human nature from returning to its swaddling clothes. Such are our author's expressions;—but a conquest over the mind is not easily acquired. Some speculations are afterwards added on the unexpected connexions between Paul and Buonaparte. The establishment of a grand military parade by the French here seems to have been a leading motive with the capricious emperor, who might perhaps argue, that monarchy was more likely to be restored in France by a mere reversion of opinion than by the power of arms, which could only supply fuel to the enmity against it. The alarm at revolution had become a mere pretext with the neighbouring powers, who merely wished for the acquisition of French provinces; and of this Paul soon became sensible, as appears from his extravagant challenge. Having been made the dupe of their designs, and the affair of Malta having sufficiently proved that no advantage whatever was intended to be conferred on him, his resentment is not matter of wonder. As choler was his predominant habit, it was natural that his prejudices and enmity against France should yield to his fresh and violent rage against the coalesced powers, the instruments of real disasters and disgraces; while against France he had no personal reason of offence, and he of course may be said to have embraced her cause from a sympathy of enmities.

In another note, the doctrine of Kant concerning a perpetual peace is illustrated. That philosopher justly ridicules the idea of Pope, that the best government is that which is best administered; as, if the form be bad, the most tyrannical administration may succeed the best; and it is the very essence of a good government to provide against the possibility of such an event. From this note it also appears, that in Prussia a system of pure deism, united with the sound morality of Jesus, is publicly taught in many churches under the title of rational Christianity. That country is here said to enjoy a most wise and moderate government, the danger of democratic principles being completely obviated by the mild wisdom and universal equity of the monarchy.

Digitized by Google

Towards the end of this last volume there are some curious additional anecdotes. Those concerning the Russian ladies and gentlemen, whose neglect of personal cleanliness exposes them to be always infested with certain creeping vermin, will scarcely bear translation. Yet one extract may be chosen, as the dignity of the personage may serve to hide its general disgust. 'In St. Petersburg, or in Moscowitz, it is not uncommon to see hucksters draw a circle on a bench, where each places his louse in the centre. He whose little courser first passes from the centre to the circumference of the circle gains the prize of this odd Newmarket. Peter the Great used sometimes to play at this game in the alehouses, and other places which he loved to frequent incognito; and it is said that this celebrated prince was never at al oss to find in his hair as vigorous an animal as any competitor could produce.' The anecdotes of Russian slavery are singular; and some instances are produced of those petty mortifications, by which the empress Catharine degraded and distracted the mind of her successor, and thus prepared his future misfortunes.

Upon the whole, we have no doubt of the authenticity of the greater part of these curious Memoirs, and may safely recommend them to our readers as a rich fund of instruction and entertainment. The French now write with so much classical freedom, that, if a translation were attempted, some very naked passages could only appear as notes in the original language, or still more properly in a Latin translation.

ART. III.—*Annales de Chymie. Tomes XXXVI et XXXVII.* Paris.

Annals of Chemistry. (Continued from Vol. XXXIII. p. 523.)

THE first number of the thirty-sixth volume commences in the ninth year of the republic, answering nearly to our 1801; but, in reality, published in September 1800. It is not peculiarly interesting, but contains continuations of Chaptal's Treatise on Wines, and of Losel's Art of making Glass. These Annals have now continued so long with unimpaired credit, that the collection is become very valuable; and it is no small ornament to the Critical Review, that it has attended their progressive publication with peculiar care. The more important articles are in general abridged; and the objects of those which do not admit of abridgment are constantly pointed out.

As the fortieth volume is now completed, we would strenuously recommend a full and accurate index.

After the continuation of M. Chaptal's memoir, we find a

Digitized by Google

'Description of a Support of Balances of all dimensions, adapted to render the experiments made with them more expeditious and convenient, without any diminution of their precision.' Artists have invented different supports, as weighing by the hand is extremely inconvenient; but these are adapted only for a single balance, and are very expensive. The present is of more universal use, and easily constructed; but the description depends on the plate, and is incapable of abridgment.

'Observations on the Constitution of different Kinds of Steel, particularly on the Steel obtained directly from the Kind of Iron called Natural Steel.' We have often found, in foreign memoirs, methods of tempering steel which render it equal to the English: but the successive volumes describe other methods; thus virtually disproving those of their predecessors. It appears that the best natural steel is not only a combination of iron with carbone, but with manganese, in a twofold proportion of the carbone.

'Extract of a letter of M. Abilgaard, secretary of the society of Copenhagen, to M. Huzard, of the National Institute.' This extract contains some comparative experiments on the proportion of carbone in the arterial and venous blood of a horse. A larger quantity of carbone occurred in the former. In the next article, M. Prieur 'claims the invention of parachutes,' and describes those of which he had formerly given an account to the Academy of Lyons.

'A memoir on the Fabrication of Wedgwood's Pyrometrical Cylinders, by M. Guzeran.' If we mistake not, Mr. Wedgwood published an analysis of the clay he employed, and offered to supply every chemical philosopher gratuitously. It is not improper however to investigate analytically the best kind. We need not be minute; but may add, that, if we take clays containing .034 of alumine, and add as much pure silex as will make the composition equally refractory with those of Wedgwood, the retraction will be the same. The flint is about 0.043.

'An Elementary Course of Pharmaceutical Natural History, by S. Morelot.' The abstract of this work does not prepossess us greatly in its favour. It is, in reality, a course of natural history, and not a very important one, in which pharmacy appears only to occur incidentally.

'Analysis of a Stone called Gadolinite, with an Explanation of some of the Properties of the new Earth which it contains, by M. Vauquelin.' Of this new earth we have already spoken; but its properties have been imperfectly noticed. The gadolinite is of a black colour, and its powder of a greyish black. It breaks like glass, and its specific gravity is 4.0497, moving sensibly the magnetic needle. Exposed to the flame of the blowpipe, it cracks in little fragments, thrown out like sparks, with

Digitized by Google

a smart noise. The remainder is of a greyish white, and does not melt completely. Heated with borax, it melts, and communicates to the salt a yellow colour, bordering on violet. In the fire it loses .08; but the loss is really .011, if the quantity of oxygen which the iron absorbs be allowed for. It contains of the new earth called *yttria* .035; of flint and oxyd of iron each .025, with a little manganese and lime;—more correctly, about 60 of yttria, 21 of flint, and 18 of iron. There is always a considerable loss, which arises from the yttria containing water, or the escape of carbonic acid gas. The particular properties of the yttria we cannot transcribe. It greatly resembles the glucine, but differs from it by being insoluble in pure fixed alkalis, and with some difficulty soluble in carbonate of ammonia. The sulphat of yttria also has little solubility; while the glucine is easily soluble in sulphuric acid. Yttria is precipitated from its solution by the oxalic acid and prussiat of potash, but the glucine is not. Its salts also are coloured; and it thus forms the connecting medium between earths and metallic oxyd. Thus, admitting the agustine, we have already *ten earths; but a new one has appeared from America, called, on this account, Columbium.* When the discovery is better ascertained, we shall introduce some description of this new star from the *West.* It is said to have been first detected by Mr. Hatchett; and it is with regret that we observe the *first publication of it in a French journal.* The columbium, with a large proportion of oxygen, is said to become an acid.

'Analysis of the Mineral Waters of Tongres, by M. Paysse.' These waters are a chalybeate of no great powers, and contain about an equal proportion of carbonate of magnesia.

'A critical Examination of the Commentary published by Wiegleb, on the Change of Water into Gas, by Van Mons.' Wiegleb complains of unfairness in the conduct of the Dutch chemists, who contended that the tubes employed by him were permeable to the air, and that the gas proceeded from the atmosphere. Van Mons defends them with zeal, and seemingly with success. This commentary is continued in the two subsequent volumes.

'Analysis of the Mellite, or Honey-Stone, by M. Vauquelin.' This mineral contains alumine and flint; but its acid is singular, for it greatly resembles the oxalic. The author, however, candidly confesses his doubts, from some subsequent experiments. There was certainly a large proportion of carbonic acid and a very small one of carbone: it is not however the oxalic acid, but apparently a new one.

'Extract of a Letter from Professor Wurzer to Van Mons.' This relates to the supposed new alkali, the *pneum*, whose existence is very doubtful, and indeed generally disbelieved; for the supposed pneum is found to be refined borax.

Digitized by Google

'Experiments on the Urine, by D. Louis Proust; translated from the Spanish. (Annales de Historia Naturale; March 1800, N° 3, p. 275.)' This author endeavours to prove the existence of sulphur, carbonic acid, ammonia, carbonate of lime, the brick-coloured sediment, the acetous acid, and a resinous substance, in urine. In many of these points he is superseded by prior publications, though he contends for the priority of the discovery. On the subject of the brick-coloured sediment we perceive some new remarks. The resin, as he calls it, has been described by Fourcroy; and we greatly mistake if his method of separating what he calls bile from the blood is not the same as that published many years since by an able chemist of Dublin, Mr. W. Higgins.

'Geogonic and Chemical Reflexions on Volcanoes,' by J. J. Virey, of Val de Grace. This author gives a general, but a superficial account of volcanoes, and the causes of their eruptions. He perceives the agency of water, but not its extent, nor the consequences of its decomposition. On the whole, this is an elegant little essay; but we observe one ludicrous error in a quotation from the English. He quotes an ironical observation from the Bathos as the real design of sir Richard Blackmore.

'Berthollet's Inquiry into the Laws of Affinity' has been already published in English; and of Fourcroy's new chemical work we have given a sufficiently ample account. This is continued through several succeeding numbers.

The thirty-seventh volume contains a conclusion of Chaptal's treatise on Wines, which we must again hope will appear in a separate publication, as a proper supplement to the dry pedantic discussion of Baccius, and the more splendid but superficial account of Dr. Barry.

'An Examination of the Experiments of M. Prevost, of Geneva, on the expansile Force of Odoriferous Emanations; and of Venturi, of Modena, on the Motions of Camphor on Water: by M. Carradori di Prato.' The article before us we cannot accurately understand, as that in which the author published his own system is not before us. The account he himself gives of it we shall translate.

'I have proved (Annali di Chemica, &c. di Brugnatelli, vol. V.; et opusculi scelti di Milano, vol. XX.) that all fixed and volatile oils, as well as resins, and the volatile concrete oils, like camphor, move on water by the affinity which every oil, either fixed or volatile, has to the surface of the water, by which it is attracted, and constrained to extend over it, till the respective attractions of a determined surface are entirely saturated with it; and that there are oils and oily substances which have more affinity than others with this liquid.'

Digitized by Google

The author afterwards explains this doctrine by the distinction, that oils have much adhesion or attraction of surface with water, but no affinity of aggregation or union. He argues also with great force against the system of Prevost, that the motions are owing to the effluvia. We are not willing wholly to agree with M. Carradori in his doctrine, which, however, we suspect that we do not fully comprehend; but are equally inclined to oppose that of Prevost, since we find a polished needle, by a similar repulsion, swim on water, though specifically heavier. There is seemingly a peculiar state of the surface of each which produces the different effects.

'On the Combinations of Metals with Sulphur, by M. Vauquelin.' In this article the author speaks of the action of acids on metallic sulphurs, of the sulphuric acid, and of the sulphur of lead. In general it appears that sulphur has greater affinity with metals than with their oxyds; and this affinity usually diminishes with the proportion of oxygen which they absorb. In some instances they unite only with sulphur in their perfect state of metal. Thus, if we triturate some of the oxyds of lead with sulphur, a portion of the latter inflames, and the metal is reduced. Mercury, in a metallic state, does not intimately combine with sulphur, and the æthiops mineral is rather a mixture than a combination; but when intimately united with sulphur, as in the cinnabar, the separation is peculiarly difficult. This however appears to be the abstract of a larger work; for there is a want of accuracy, rarely observed in this author's publications. In the æthiops mineral, for instance, there must be a real combination, since both the mercury and the sulphur lose their appropriate effects; and, in the cinnabar, it is by no means clear in what state he supposes the metal to be.

'An Essay on a new Electrometer, by M. Cadet.' A short and judicious account of the different electrometers is prefixed to the description of that recommended by the author. His object was to construct an electrometer equally applicable to conductors feebly electrified, and to great masses of the fluid accumulated in batteries, without allowing for any friction or any weight; to ascertain a fixed measure of the charge, which may be preserved after the operation, and which shows at all times the nature and the quantity of the electricity. These objects the instrument here described seems completely to fulfil; and the author obviates, very satisfactorily, some important objections which may be made to it.

Some miscellaneous communications, which we have anticipated in the present article, follow; and we need only notice the account of the crysolite, an aluminous fluat, which MM. Klaproth and Vauquelin have found to contain soda. We have little doubt, as we have formerly hinted, that soda is among the primitive substances.

Digitized by Google

Professor Wurzer, in a letter to Van Mons, mentions a singular phænomenon of detonation. To a solution of sulphat, of muriat, and acetite of soda, he accidentally added a crystal of nitrat of silver; a smart but slight detonation followed. He adds, that the 'salt'—we suppose the *metallic* salt—had been made three years before, and, during that time, had been exposed to the sun; which reminded us of the observation in a late collection of essays, of the phænomenon of the argentum fulminans having been occasioned by its previous exposure to light, in support of the idea of detonation arising from the mutual repulsion of heat and light.

M. Badolier's new method of preparing the Acetic Acid at one quarter of the usual expense, consists in distilling, with a gentle heat in a sand bath, with glass retort, &c. equal parts of sulphat of copper and acetite of lead. The acid is perfectly pure.

Abstract of a Treatise on Vinegars, by M. Parmentier. The title to this article seems to require explanation. In reality, the treatise of which the account is here given occurs in the 'Complete Course of Agriculture,' and is a very proper appendix to the Treatise on Wine by M. Chaptal. The manufacture of vinegar requires an increase of temperature, with a free exposure to the atmospheric air. Some additions, that act as a ferment, are also requisite, which in this country the stalks of raisins often supply; and a certain proportion of alcohol is equally necessary to avoid mouldiness and putrefaction. The author next describes the different management for different sorts of vinegar, and particularly mentions that from cider, perry, beer, and the bran of wheat. He next enumerates the vegetable acids substituted for vinegar, particularly those of gooseberries, barberries, &c. The means of preserving vinegar are next noticed. By evaporating the water, the flavour is lost; and, even when concentrated by frost, the acid acquires a disagreeable smell and taste, which the author calls, somewhat improperly, empyreumatic. Sea-salt added will often for a time succeed. The adulterations of vinegar, and its imperfect states, are next adverted to; but on this point we find nothing which merits our notice. A very slight knowledge of chemistry will supply all that the author suggests.

'New Experiments on the Galvanic Fluid, by Robertson, read to the National Institute.' This article is of no great importance. The author thinks the Galvanic power to be very different from electrical, and that the influence is that of an acid.

'Analysis of the white silvery Chlorite, by M. Vauquelin.' This species of chlorite is soft to the touch, formed of little brilliant scales, and possessed of the smell of clay when moistened. Its substance is however chiefly siliceous, with about 0.018 of

Digitized by Google

alumine. It differs however from the green chlorite, crystallised in prisms, by containing a little pot-ash; while the latter contains magnesia, which the white does not furnish in the smallest quantity. Our author therefore would separate the green and white kinds; but we should have considered his determination as too rigorously chemical, did not its more obvious properties, the form of its crystals, coincide in the same result.

'Experiments relative to the Action of Sulphurated Hydrogen on Iron, by which it is said to form the Muriatic Acid, by M. Vauquelin.' Our author, in repeating the experiment, found no muriatic acid; and he suspects the ingredients to have been impure when the acid was observed. It appears, from the experiments of Berthollet, that iron, recently filed, shows no traces of this acid; but, after a slight exposure to the air, it may be discovered. This will not be surprising to those who, with Margraff and others, have found this acid in condensed dew and frost. In this experiment, much hydrogenous gas was emitted, which could not, in M. Vauquelin's opinion, arise from the sulphurated hydrogen; since, to combine with the sulphur, the metal must be previously oxygenated. He supposes therefore that it decomposes a part of the water, attracting first its oxygen, and then the sulphur; increasing, by both operations, the quantity of hydrogenous gas emitted.

M. Achard found that seeds germinated much sooner, and animals lived longer, in condensed air. When the air was condensed three-fold, animals lived five times longer. When suddenly condensed, they sunk with all the appearances of compression on the brain. Birds let loose from condensed air seemed to experience no inconvenience from the comparative rarity of common air.

'A Memoir on different Kinds of Mortars, on poor Lime, on Tarras, and on Puozzolane, by M. Guyton.' This author describes the composition of different kinds of mortars invented or recommended by chemical writers, and then speaks of poor lime, which is so called, from its not producing a mortar equally rich with that procured from the other kinds. Its useful property is however that of hardening in water, which it owes to a portion of manganese. It contains also a small portion of clay; and M. Guyton thinks that it may be prepared artificially, by adding to ninety parts of good powdered limestone, four of clay, and six of manganese. The methods of making tarras are next noticed; and puozzolane may be supplied, in the author's opinion, by basaltes heated to a red heat, then thrown into water, and sifted when dried. M. Monge visited the remains of Cæsarea (Cæsarea Stratonis), and could distinguish the different ages of the buildings by the solidity of the mortars. In one part there were beautiful ornaments *en*

Digitized by Google

creux, formed by what had been executed in relief in stone. The latter was decayed, but the mortar continued unchanged.

'Memoir of M. Pontier on the Manufacture of Saccharum Saturni, read at the Session of the Mines: abridged by M. Vauquelin.' For many years the acetite of lead was supplied by Holland, and the preparation kept secret. It has been long made in France, and the process is in general known: M. Pontier describes it with care, and has added some important improvements. The chemical reasoning is deferred to another memoir; and a minute process cannot be abridged.

'Experiments and Observations on some Philosophical and Chemical Phænomena which the Electrical (the Galvanic) Apparatus of Volta presents, by M. Desormes.' The article before us contains chiefly experiments which we cannot curtail; but it also contains some observations, of which we shall offer a short abstract. The principle of Galvanism appears from these experiments—and this indeed has been often remarked before—to consist in the oxydation of the metal; and the electricity on the oxydated side is positive. It does not arise, in M. Desormes' opinion, from the decomposition of the water; and the force of the apparatus has little influence on the oxydation beyond a certain point. But the electricity (for thus he styles the Galvanic fluid), though not produced by the decomposition of the water, will afterwards, by its own power, effect this change. The author next notices the order of the metals and the fluids which will produce the greatest effect; and points out some well-known phænomena, which we need not stay to describe. He repeats the English experiments on the proportion of the airs, and the formation of acid and alkali on the oxydating or hydrogenating sides. In illustration of this fact, the author notices a remark of Vauquelin, who, on triturating rock crystal in an agate mortar with syrup of violets, found the syrup assume a green colour. The author, on farther inquiry, found that, when the same substances were rubbed together, that which was bruised and had its polish destroyed exhibited an electricity contrary to its natural inclination. As that of rock crystal is positive, the electricity which rendered the syrup green must be negative. We remember Dr. Cullen making a similar observation thirty years since, when speaking of the preparation of the unguentum mercuriale. He attributed the calcination of the metal to the electricity excited by the friction, which, (he added) in many cases, appears to perform the office of an acid. We mention it as a proof of singular sagacity; nor was it the only one. Some remarks on the oxydation and reduction of metals by the electric fluid, follow. The augmentation of the pile appears to have no effect in increasing the oxydation.

'Reflexions on some Passages in ancient Authors, by M.

Digitized by Google

Pissis.' This is an excellent little paper, and draws the balance between Mayow and his contemporaries with great judgement. The author shows that Mayow *was*, as we have already observed, noticed by them, particularly by Hales and Baglivi; but the preponderance of Hales's credit obscured that of Mayow; and Baglivi's theory of the loss of elasticity was considered as a more satisfactory theory than the loss of the nitrous aërial spirit. The connexion of the loss of elasticity with the loss of caloric, though not known to Hales, was hinted at by Seneca, who however cannot pretend, as some hasty undistinguishing inquirers have supposed with respect to Mayow, to have anticipated every modern discovery.

ART. IV.—*Mémoires de l'Institut National des Sciences et des Arts. Memoirs of the National Institute of Sciences and Arts. (Continued from Vol. XXXIII. p. 486.)*

OUR last article commenced with the second volume of the class of Moral and Political Sciences; and we advanced to Memoir VI. inclusively. We now continue our analysis, which will include the remainder of the volume.

'VII. On the State of the French Marine at the Beginning of the Fourteenth Century, and on the Kind of Tactics at that Time employed in Sea-Fights. By M. Legrand d'Aussy.'

This memoir is altogether drawn from a poem, or rather a history in rhyme, of an engagement in the year 1304 on the Zealand coast, between Guy de Namur, count of Flanders, who had usurped great part of the territory of Jean d'Avènes, count of Holland and Hainaut, and the French fleet, under the command of Renier Grimaud (Grimaldi) a Genoese captain, or rather corsair, of great courage and reputation, who was enticed into the service of the French marine by Philip the Fair, at that time engaged in a war against Flanders, and consequently a close and powerful ally of the count of Holland. The period of the battle comprises about sixteen hours, and extends through an entire night. In the ensuing morning, the combatants manifest a double degree of vigour; and, in the issue, Guy de Namur is taken prisoner amidst a prodigious slaughter of his own forces; and the victory of course is amply decided in favour of Grimaldi. This historical poem was written by Guillaume Guiart, a native of Orléans, and was fantastically entitled *Branche aux Royaux Lignages*. Its versification is totally destitute of merit; but its descriptions appear to be accurate; and the only use which is made of it in the present instance, is to convey some idea of the naval tactics of the century referred to. Prior to the æra of Francis I. the French

Digitized by Google

had no established marine whatever, nor even conceived the necessity of such an establishment. As the forests of Germany were infested with vast bodies of banditti, the seas were in like manner infested with vagrant fleets of corsairs, several of which frequently united themselves under the command of one intrepid and celebrated chief; and their services were to be hired by any power who meditated a descent on a neighbouring territory, or who in any other way stood in need of naval assistance. The present French and Flemish fleets were, for the most part, composed of such detached and independent squadrons; and in their attack and defence they retained much of the old Roman mode of combating. Vessels of every description, large and small, ships, galleys, boats, were all brought into action at one time: the larger were laced together for mutual support, and to prevent the possibility of their separation. They were lined on the decks with a promiscuous crowd of archers, slingers, and swordsmen; while strong and gradually diminishing stages or platforms surrounded the masts at different heights, loaded with slingers and bowmen alone: and for the defence both of the deck and platforms, or turrets, as they might more properly be called, a breast-work was thrown around of a kind of sail-cloth, which obviously afforded protection rather by concealment than resistance. Every ship thus manned resembled an oriental pagoda; and, in some instances, the turrets constructed around the masts were so lofty as to give the body of troops there situated a full command of the walls about to be assaulted, and an opportunity of employing their catapults against the interior of the fort or city. This mode of assault was by no means unknown to the ancient Romans. It was adopted, as most of our readers will recollect, on a wonderfully extensive scale, by Marcellus, during the siege of Syracuse; at which time nothing but the superior skill of Archimedes preserved the city from the destruction that was menaced. We do not find, however,—and it is almost the only deviation we have observed from the instruments introduced into the Roman marine,—any notice taken of the corvus Duillii, or machine invented by the consul of that name, for the purpose of boarding; of which we have given a brief account in our review of M. Le Roi's Memoir *, respecting the advantages to be derived from the re-adoption of that instrument, as well as of several other facts and circumstances common to the naval establishment of that celebrated republic. We may naturally therefore conclude, that, notwithstanding the praises lavished upon it by several historians, it was found too cumberous and inconvenient for general utility, and was, in consequence, gradually relinquished.

* See our 31st volume, p. 497.

Digitized by Google

The greater part of this memoir consists of remarks upon the descriptions of the poet by the writer of the article; but they contain nothing either new or extraordinary, and but very little indeed which has not heretofore been advanced both by Froissart and the author of the Histoire générale de la Marine, and especially by De Vitri, in his Historia Orientalis.

'VIII. On the Origin of Law, its Definition, its different Kinds, and the Language which appertains to it. By M. Baudin (des Ardennes).'

'One common will, founded upon a reciprocity of interests, binds every member of each political society mutually to promise and demand protection against violence; and this protection,' says M. Baudin, 'is *the law*,—anterior, at least in idea, to every authority which is charged with its execution:

"Jura magistratusque legunt, sanctumque senatum."

In this verse of Virgil, continues he, we perceive the natural order by which the formation of the law precedes the choice of those who are to apply it; and these two operations successively emanate from the same source. It presents to us an infant colony, proceeding, in its collective capacity, first of all to discover what laws are best adapted to its well-being, and afterwards what men it shall invest with the possession of public powers.'

This is the common mode of speculating, and ought unquestionably to be the common mode of practice. But if we refer to historical facts, we shall not find that this sort of social compact, which so fascinates us in the pages of Plato and Rousseau, has any degree of universal application. The origin of almost every nation is immersed in such inscrutable obscurity, that we can seldom acquire any certainty of information. That of the Romans is perhaps as well known to us as any. But when Romulus called to his vagrant standard the different hordes of banditti that infested the country around him, marshaled them into some degree of order, and promulged his laws for their obedience, we find but little of that general collection of the public will, so perpetually referred to by the present writer, and those of the same school. It is obvious that Romulus was endowed with talents far superior to any of his comrades. The axiom of the immortal Bacon, that *knowledge is power*, will stand as long as the world endures; and it was by the possession of this intrinsic power alone, and not by the consent of the brigandine hordes who flocked to his banners, that he seated himself in the possession of the supreme authority. Could we trace the origin of the first associations of mankind in different quarters of the earth, we should probably be able to resolve most of them into similar facts; we should see little or nothing of mickle-gemotes or wittena-gemotes of

Digitized by Google

the popular will, expressed either individually or representatively; but should trace the first cause of association to the superior craft or wisdom of some individual, who united his fellow barbarians into one class for the purpose of private ambition, or perhaps of private revenge.

M. Baudin considers the science of the law under the various branches of criminal, civil, military, fiscal, and political, strictly so called, or that which regulates the interior police of a state. Many of his observations under the fourth of these divisions, the fiscal or financial, are entitled to much attention, and especially those which relate to the principle of levying taxes. We agree with him also in another point, as to the advantage which would necessarily result from a uniformity of legislation, and the application of the same laws to every part of the most extensive empire. But, while we concede the principle, we are compelled to assert its inadmissibility in a variety of cases: and we need only instance, as an example, the immense possessions of the British East-India company. Something of the principle here contended for was at one time attempted in their Asiatic dominions, by the universal introduction and application of English legislation; but so widely different are the political views, the national prejudices, practices, and religions, of the natives in the different provinces, that the attempt was soon and wisely relinquished; and a new system of law, founded upon principles appealed to by all, or admitting the operation of local prejudices and customs, the common law of the cast or province, was introduced in its stead.

On the subject of legal language, our author affords us some very happy and judicious remarks; and we trust his countrymen will profit by them in their present infantine institutions. The redundancy and periphrasis which we are perpetually meeting with at home—the absurd use of obsolete terms, the meaning of which has been long totally unknown to the people, and is scarcely recognised by the profession itself—those barbarisms and obscurities which run through every page, and, instead of adjusting, lay the foundation for additional disputes—are a disgrace to the age in which we live. A lawyer, observes M. Baudin, in preparing his brief, ought to be as cautious in the selection of his terms as Boileau was accustomed to be in that of his rhymes. Doubt would then be discarded, and one word would often answer the purpose of a dozen.

'IX. On ancient National Sepultures, and the external Ornaments which at different Times have been employed; on Embalmings; on the Tombs of the French Kings in the heretofore-named Church of St. Germain; and on a Project of Interment for the Departments. By M. Legrand d'Aussy.'

This is a voluminous memoir, occupying not less than 270 quarto pages. Our author opens the bowels of the earth with

Digitized by Google

all the hardihood of a mineralogist, and often affords us more entertainment. The title divides this bulky communication into three parts. Of these the first, relating to ancient national sepultures, is subdivided into five chapters—1. On sepultures common to the ancient nations of Europe and Asia. 2. On such as were in use among the Gauls, and the barbarous hordes who invaded Gaul. 3. We have in this chapter the different modes of sepulture common to the Gauls, divided into six different epochs. Of these, the first mounts up to a period of very early antiquity, and even of savage life; prior indeed, in our author's opinion, to the invention of tools for excavating the earth, when, merely in consequence of such want of conveniences, the dead body was uniformly burnt, and the ashes covered over with unhewn stones. To this æra, wishing, like the Scandinavian historians, to designate it by some peculiar appellation, M. d'Aussy, somewhat whimsically, gives the name of *the primitive age of fire.* His second epoch he entitles *the age of hills*—alluding to the excavations made in their prominences for the reception, not of the body itself, but of the bones and ashes collected after it had been burnt, and deposited in an urn or other receptacle: consequently this second age implies some considerable acquaintance with mechanics and metallurgy. The third epoch comprises *sepulcral hills, without the use of burning*, which our author imagines to have had a very long duration, though he favours us in no instance with any thing like dates, or advances beyond conjecture. His fourth age is that of *funeral piles.* His fifth, of *sarcophagi*, or stone coffins interred in the bosom of the earth. His sixth the age of *mausolea*, including sepulcral monuments of the present day.

The fourth chapter is devoted to the subject of embalmings, which is again divided into three sections. Of these, the first relates to the *mummy of Auvergne.* The Auvergnois are well known to have been peculiarly happy in the art of embalming at a very early period, and infinitely to have excelled the Egyptian artists: for, while the latter, by withdrawing the brains and entrails, and shriveling the limbs, reduced the body to a mere skeleton, enveloped in a kind of adhesive cere-cloth, the former preserved every individual particle of the body in its just and natural symmetry, and presented, in the person of the embalmed, an image rather of sound and refreshing sleep, than of death and desolation of form. The preparation employed for this purpose, like many other ingenuities of the earlier ages, we are now totally ignorant of, notwithstanding our general pretensions to superior knowledge and information; nor has any fair and decisive example of the Auvergnian mummy reached the present day: whence it is but just, however, to conclude, that, though the artists of that country embalmed with greater elegance than those of Egypt, their preparations were less durable. The

Digitized by Google

proofs of the art, and of the success of the former, are at present only to be found in the pages of ancient writers who had been witnesses of their ingenuity. In the second section of this chapter our author treats of the embalmings of the middle and lower ages; in the course of which we meet with nothing that needs detain us. His third section is on the use of mummies in medicine; and refers to an absurd belief, which at one time passed current in the world, that the flesh of an Egyptian mummy was an excellent specific in cases of contusion, and even of mortal wounds. In consequence of this vulgar prejudice, mummies became an object of great traffic; and more were disposed of in every year than perhaps all Egypt was in possession of. False mummies were manufactured; many of them in Egypt itself, but many also in France and the adjoining kingdoms—immense numbers of bodies being stolen, according to the testimony of Ambrose Paré, in the night-time, either from gibbets or church-yards; and, when duly manufactured, offered to sale, and occasionally at the low price of about two guineas and a half, as importations of Portuguese merchants, purchased by these latter in the province of Lower Egypt.

The fifth chapter relates to the external ornaments of tombs employed at different ages. These, in two distinct sections, are divided into as many classes, viz. Roman and national tombs: the latter referring to those of the Gauls, or such barbarous tribes as the Franks, Visigoths, and Burgundians, who, having forcibly taken possesion of the country, became an integral part of the people; the former being confined to those which are strictly Roman, bearing the Roman form and character, and usually accompanied with Latin inscriptions. To these are added two other sections, appropriated to what our author denominates by two terms now for the first time admitted from the provincial dialects into the standard language of the country—*lécavènes* and *dolmines*: meaning by the former the rude mode, once in use, of designating the place of interment by two unhewn and parallel stones raised in an upright direction over the body of the deceased, accompanied, in some instances, with a third, which was thrown across and lodged upon the other two; and which, he seems to conceive, gave the first idea of sepulcral colonnades, and other decorations of a similar class: while by the latter our author designates that simple monument which consists of two flat lateral stones with a third laid upon them, elevated hereby a little above the surface of the earth, and containing the name and age of the deceased. This latter may have been the common origin of the greater number of sepulcral elevations now to be met with in the country church-yards of Great-Britain: but M. d'Aussy is unquestionably mistaken in attributing the *chorea gigantum*, or the immense and massy relics at Stonehenge, to the class of *lécavènes*, or of any other

Digitized by Google

sepulcral order whatever. We have already had occasion, in our review of Mr. King's Munimenta Antiqua, as well as in several other articles, to assert, without fear of contradiction, that these astonishing relics, instead of being funeral monuments, are unquestionably the remains of an ancient seat of judicature. The same subject is continued through two other sections. The seventh considers the origin of rude earthen tumuli or cromlechs among different and uncultivated nations. The eighth is on the construction of different kinds of tombs not included in the foregoing divisions, on chapels and epitaphs. The ninth and tenth branch out into the consideration of mausolea and their different ornaments.

The second and third part of this extensive memoir form merely a kind of short appendix to the first, and are devoted to the two subjects enumerated in the remainder of its title.

'X. Report made in the Name of a Commission composed of MM. Laplace, Fourcroy, Cels, Naigeon, Fleurieu, Baudin, Camus, Mongez, and Vincent, charged by the National Institute to examine in what Manner, on the Decease of its Members, it ought to pay them its last Respect. By M. Baudin (des Ardennes.)'

This is a short memoir, and concludes with the following plan, which was adopted by the Institute on its proposal. 1. The members of the National Institute shall assist at the funerals of their brethren. 2. Every member of the Institute shall wear, during the ceremony, a piece of black crape round his left arm. 3. The members of the Institute who compose the committee of the class of the deceased, or who are his particular friends, or his near neighbours, are requested, as soon as possible, to make themselves acquainted with the day and the hour of the funeral, and to communicate such information to the secretary. 4. The commission of the treasury is to charge itself with the necessary expenses, and to circulate the necessary intelligence, as soon as it has reached the secretary, to every member of the Institute, by expresses for the purpose. 5. When the time of interment interferes with that of a sitting, whether general or particular, the sitting is postponed to the next open day. This disposition does not apply to public sittings. 6. In the public sitting in which the notice relative to deceased members shall be pronounced, their family shall be allotted a peculiar situation. The president of the sitting shall take care that it be pre-occupied by the family; and the commission of the treasury shall conduct them into it.

'XI. Second Report, made in the Name of the Commission enumerated in Memoir X. on the present State of the Burial-Grounds in the Commune of Paris.'

'Many of the burial-grounds in Paris and its environs are far too small for the object to which they are destined; and, in consequence, the deceased are often crowded upon each other in the

Digitized by Google

most indecent manner; while many of their coffins are scarcely covered from the public view, and the most noisome and pestilential effluvium is perpetually escaping and impregnating the atmosphere with its morbid gas. With the evil of such a practice the members of the National Institute became deeply impressed when attending the funeral of M. Dewailly, one of their brethren—on the official notice or *éloge* of whom we have observed in our last Appendix—who was interred in a burial-ground of this description, a little beyond the precincts of Clichy. The commission who now make their report were charged with an examination into the subject, in consequence of the inadequacy of the spot, and the culpable negligence of those to whom it was intrusted. The report is made in the memoir before us; and several remedies are proposed, which cannot fail of being advantageous. These were all approved by the Institute, and ordered to be sent to the executive directory, constituting at that time the chief magistracy of the republic.

With this memoir the second volume of the class of Moral and Political Sciences terminates; and we now therefore return to present our readers with a continuation of the second volume of the department of Literature and Polite Arts.

'IV. Memoir on the Pelasgi. By M. Dupuis.'

The Pelasgians were one of the boldest and most considerable tribes who at a very early period made an irruption into Greece, and wrested a great part of it from the hands of the aborigines, who retired before them. They were a very migratory race, of highly doubtful origin; fond of bestowing their name on every district or country of which they took possession. Hence Thessaly, Arcadia, and the island of Rhodes, were each of them denominated Pelasgia; and Samos and Antandros were both entitled Pelasgian. We trace them from the southern parts of Greece, as far north as that part of Scythia which is bounded by the Euxine, and at present inhabited by a Tartar race. We have already had occasion to express ourselves so fully upon this wandering and ingenious people, in our review of Mr. Allwood's Literary Antiquities of Greece *, that we here take our leave of M. Dupuis for the present; more especially as we shall have occasion to return to him when we come to notice his hypothesis of their source and origin in a subsequent memoir inserted in the ensuing volume.

'V. Memoir on the Mœris. By M. Le Roy.'

Our author rejects the term *lake*, which generally precedes that of Mœris, in the present title; because, in his opinion, it tends to convey a false idea concerning it. The Mœris is, properly speaking, a vast canal cut from the lake Kern, which

* See pp. 11, and 131, of this volume.

Digitized by Google

comprises a part of what is now commonly understood by the Mœris, and runs into the Nile in the direction of north to south: yet, as the whole of this prodigious sheet of water has for ages been possessed of one integral name, and the canal itself, if we credit the statement of Herodotus and Diodorus, originally possessed not less than 3,600 stadia in circumference, we do not see so great an inaccuracy in applying the term *lake* to the entire length of the Mœris as is apprehended by M. le Roy; more especially as the term *canal* is more appropriately, and by way of distinction, applied to the channel which forms its south-easterly termination, and by which it empties itself into the Nile; or conversely, in other seasons, derives a due degree of supply from it. The magnitude and direction of the Mœris has been very differently stated by different Greek historians; and even modern writers and travelers—so considerably have its appearance and character been changed for many ages—have been as little capable of agreeing upon the subject. It is sufficient for us to observe, that our present chartist follows, upon the whole, the steps of Strabo and Ptolemy, among the ancients; and of d'Anville, in opposition to Gibert and Savary, among later writers; and illustrates his scheme by a well-engraven plate. We may shortly, however, expect, from the joint labours of several of our own officers, now just returned from this interesting country, a more accurate account, both of the Mœris and the Bubastis, than any we have hitherto been in possession of.

'VI. On Murrine Vases, by M. Mongez.'

Much doubt has subsisted in the minds of the best mineralogists, as to the substance denominated *murrinum*, whence were produced the beautiful goblets so highly esteemed during the seventh, eighth, and ninth centuries of the Roman æra. It is stated by Pliny that these vases were procured from the east, from countries little known, especially from Parthia and Carmania. It was supposed to be a crystallised fluid, shining rather than glittering—*splendor sine viribus, nitorque verius quam splendor*: its chief value consisted in the variety of its colours, consisting of a number of spots perpetually changing from purple into white, or a flaming hue composed of both these, which suddenly shifted again into purple or red combined with milky white. Some gave the preference to the intensity of colours they exhibited, and the steady reflexion of their hues, as in a rainbow: others were best pleased with the breadth of the coloured spot. To be translucent was esteemed a defect; while it added considerably to their estimation to be possessed of perfume. M. Mongez examines at large several of the siliceous earths which seem nearest to approximate to this and other accounts of the Roman naturalist, particularly the opal, girasol, and chalcedony; and he at last fixes on that species of the latter

Digitized by Google

which mineralogists have denominated *cacholong*. Guibert has long ago referred it to the onyx-chalcedony; but the former appears, in the main, best to correspond with the characteristic marks of the murrinum. Yet, after all, the odor of the murrhinum is in no respect to be traced either in the cacholong, or indeed in any of the siliceous earths with which we are acquainted in the present day; and we are still therefore involved in as much doubt as ever. It is cutting the knot, to assert with M. Mongez, that this was an adventitious quality communicated to it occasionally by perfumes with which it happened accidentally to be packed up, or from some other independent and extrinsic cause. We can scarcely imagine that the Romans could have been thus universally imposed upon; and especially in a point which appears to have been of so much consequence in their judgement as to have constituted the very name of the utensil itself. Either, therefore, the murrinum was manufactured from an earth we are now unacquainted with, or the oriental artist must have been possessed of a mode of super-adding to it a permanent perfume, of which we can form no rational conjecture.

'VII. Part of the Sixteenth Book of the Iliad translated into French Verse, by M. Villar.'

The version here presented consists of about two hundred lines, comprising the address of Patroclus to Achilles upon the subject of his absenting himself from the Grecian armament, the advance of Hector with his triumphant Trojans to the Grecian fleet, their firing it in the sight of Achilles, and his instant consent that Patroclus should lead forward his inactive troops to repel the assault. The translation is smooth and accurate, more compressed than the generality of versions in the French language, but not possessed of any peculiar merit, nor pre-eminently entitled to the notice here taken of it by the National Institute.

'VIII. Report concerning several Vases found in a Tomb near Geneva, an Engraving of which was sent to the Institute by the Genevese Society for the Encouragement of Sciences and Arts. By MM. Vien and Le Blond.'

Instead of any particular account, or any probable conjectures concerning the vessels here referred to, this paper is entirely occupied with vague details concerning ancient sepultures, the doctrine of a separate state of existence, and the preparations frequently made by the relatives of the deceased for the support of the soul when severed from the body, by placing in the tomb, along with the urn containing the bones and ashes, where burning was employed, other vessels loaded with foods and wines. The vases here referred to are unquestionably however of this description. The village in which the tomb was discovered is Annimasso; but our reporters drop the immediate subject consigned to their attention as soon as they enter upon it. Their

Digitized by Google

competency for the undertaking may in some measure be decided from the following learned and correct remark.

'It remains yet to be determined, whether, if the body were placed in this position, it would be a posture chosen to enable it to look towards the east on its resurrection; for such is the position affected in their funerals by those ancient nations who worshipped the sun; such was also that adopted by the Christians, *who were only a sect of the religion of Mithra*, in which the sun was the object of divine adoration.'

But the times are changed: and our profound antiquaries have, no doubt, before this time joined in the splendid train of the great consul, and been themselves admitted into this sect of the Mithraïc mythology.

'IX. On the Work entitled Περι θαυμασιων Ακουσματων, (*De mirabilibus Auscultationibus*), printed among the writings of Aristotle. By M. Camus.'

The critics and commentators upon Aristotle have differed in opinion concerning the author of this collection of extraordinary facts, as well as upon the title itself, which it ought to sustain. Casaubon denominates it Ακουσματα θαυμασια. P. Victorius, as cited by Fabricius, asserts that in one codex he had seen it named Παραδοξων. The more common mode of entitling it, however, is that adopted by our author; which is variously rendered by the different Latin interpreters—*De mirabilibus Auscultationibus*, *De miraculis Auditis*, and *De admirandis Narrationibus*. As to the various opinions concerning the writer of this work, M. Camus arranges the authors of them in four classes:—1. Those who affirm that it was written by Aristotle, and that he composed it with the same views as his History of Animals. 2. Those who deny that Aristotle ever composed it, or at least the philosopher of that name who was the tutor of Alexander the Great. 3 and 4, Those who regard it as a production of the Stagirite, but not an express treatise written upon the subject to which it pretends: the former of these asserting, that it contains a mere isolated collection of facts and anecdotes, collected partly by Aristotle himself, and partly by his assistants; and the latter, that it is a mere compilation from other works of that philosopher, by some unknown and later hand. The opinion of M. Camus is in complete consonance with the third of these classes of critics, with the exception alone that this collection of extraordinary recitals has been considerably augmented by writers posterior to the age of the original author. To this opinion are appended several remarks upon the work itself—generally explanatory, and often ingenious.

'X. On Types constructed for Moneys, compared with those for Medals. By M. Mongez.'

The composition and the choice of types for moneys does

Digitized by Google

not entirely depend upon taste and inclination; it is subordinate to a knowledge of the art of minting. Medals are frequently struck with not less than twelve or fifteen successive blows of the balance, and during this time, are often exposed to the fire till they acquire a red heat, that they may assume the impression more readily and correctly. Economy, however, and the necessity of a large coinage, render a different proceeding indispensable in the minting of moneys. To attain both these objects, it is requisite to employ great expedition, and to make use of not more than a single stroke of the balance or graver. The types employed must therefore be of very different materials; and we cannot be surprised at finding many of the ancient medals, in the construction of which a vast portion of time and labour was expended, finished in a much more perfect style than the common coins of the present day. If the medal appeared imperfect, it might be struck over a second, or even a third time, with a trifling loss of value; for it was generally composed of bronze: but it is obvious that, in the case of minting, and in the higher coins particularly, this can never be attempted—the artist being limited to the most scrupulous weight, and encountering moreover a loss of metal by a repetition of the impression, which would soon terminate in his ruin.

'XI. Ode of a philanthropic Republican against Monarchy. By M. le Brun.'

We cannot trace the philanthropy of M. le Brun in these verses; but he is at least resolved that this hatred of monarchy shall not be so questionable. *Exempli gratiâ:*

'O nation! ne cède plus tes droits:
Tout monarque est tyran, tout despote est parjure.
Rien ne détruit l'indomptable nature;
Et l'on ne peut changer les tigres ni les rois.'

O, with your rights, no more ye people part:
All kings are rods, all despots false at heart.
One firm, unconquered plan is nature's will;
Kings must be kings, and tigers tigers still.

'XII. Ode of a philanthropic Republican against Anarchy. By M. le Brun.'

Our poet seems to dislike anarchists rather more than kings, violent as his aversion is to the latter; and, if we may judge from the increased degree of spirit manifested in the present ode, he has been a greater sufferer since the revolution than before it.

'XIII. Observations on the two first Books of the Politics of Aristotle. By M. Bitaubé.'

These observations are divided into three distinct memoirs. The first offers us an analysis of the principles of Aristotle upon

Digitized by Google

the elements of civil society. The second contains an analysis of his principles upon community and the equality of property. The third examines the opinions of different philosophers and other celebrated writers of antiquity upon the ancient republics. We cannot follow our author with any sort of detail through the whole of this extensive paper, occupying not less than 128 pages. It is sufficient to observe, that M. Bitaubé has studied his subject with a very creditable application; and has introduced a variety of remarks, many of which, if carried into practice, will assuredly prove advantageous to the welfare of his country. The whole paper is obviously designed for the meridian of the French republic, and the present epoch of its constitution.

'XIV. On Gladiators, and two antique Statues known by the Name of Gladiators. By M. Mongez.'

Of these statues, the first is the gladiator of the Villa Borghese, dug up from the ruins of the ancient Antium, now Porto d'Anzio, during the pontificate of Paul V. which extended from 1605 to 1621. The second is generally denominated, from the anguish represented in the muscles of his countenance, the dying gladiator. It formerly embellished the gardens of the Villa Ludovisi; and an engraving of it was given to the world by Nerriet in 1638, under the denomination of *the dying Mirmillo*. These are both among the Italian spoils of Bonaparte, and decorate, at the present hour, the Museum of Paris. M. Mongez, in this memoir, follows closely the steps of the learned and, upon the whole, accurate Winkelman; and only differs from him in points in which he is completely supported by historical facts and characteristic sculptures or engravings. It is impossible that both these statues can be designed as representations of gladiators; for nothing can be more unlike than the one to the other. That of the Villa Borghese, is one of the most beautiful of antiquity; the hair is short, and elegantly curled over the head, according to the Greek costume; the face is without either beard, whiskers, or mustachios; every muscle preserves the most perfect tranquillity; and the general result gives us the idea rather of a god or deified hero than of a man. The countenance of the supposed gladiator of the Villa Ludovisi is, on the contrary, ferocious in the highest degree: every muscle is diagnostic of extreme pain; the upper lip is surmounted with a broad and savage mustachio; and the hair of the head much longer than in the former statue, and falling in disorderly curls over the ears and eye-brows. Winkelman, who admitted that the first might have been a gladiator, and had no objection to the name of *Bato*, by which it was commonly designated, denied that this last delineated the same profession, and rather believed it to have been the statue of a Grecian herald, and to have represented either Polyphontes, who was slain by Œdipus, together with his master Laius, king of Thebes; or Copreas, the herald

Digitized by Google

of Eurysthes, who was murdered by the Athenians. M. Mongez denies that they were either of them gladiators, or even heralds. The introduction of his memoir is intended to prove that the former were universally selected, both among the Greeks and Romans, from slaves, or the lowest and most despicable of the people; that they were at all times held in utter contempt; and that we have no proof whatever of the existence of a single sculpture in honour of any of them: and he concludes, without any individual appropriation of either of these statues, that the first represents an unknown Grecian hero or gymnastic, whose profession was as much honoured as that of the gladiator was vilified; and the second, a slave or barbarian in the act of dying. He has added three plates, illustrative of his subject and opinion.

'XV. Ossian's last Hymn. By M. Chenier.'

The character of M. Chenier as a poet is well known from his former productions; and it will not be impaired by the present effusion, which is in fluent but irregular verse; carefully manufactured, but deficient in sublimity and characteristic abruptness.

'XVI. Project with respect to several Alterations by which Catalogues of Libraries may be rendered more durable *(plus constitutionnels)*; with Observations on the Character, Qualities, and Functions of a true Librarian. By M. Ameilhon.'

We have formerly noticed a memoir on the same subject by M. Camus, inserted in the antecedent volume. The present was written and read to the Institute prior to M. Camus's production, to which in reality it gave birth, and which in some measure was designed as an answer to it. This of M. Ameilhon was intended—and, in point of regularity, the intention should have been executed—to have preceded the other in the list of memoirs; but not having been sent to the Institute time enough for appearing in its proper place, the class to whom it was addressed consented to insert it where it now exists. The plan proposed contains many excellent regulations; and we entirely agree with our author, that the office of a public librarian should be highly honoured and respected, and that the care and protection of public libraries should only be confided to literati of the first degree of merit.

'XVII. Man and his Conscience, a Dialogue. By M. Collin Harleville.'

This colloquy is a verse production, in which the passions, predominant inclinations, and actions of the man, are severely questioned by the vicegerent of his bosom. The advice given by the latter, whether relative to religion or morals, is altogether unexceptionable: the former engages to follow it; and they eventually part in perfect friendship.

'XVIII. On the different Kinds of Spartium spoken of by the Ancients. By M. Ameilhon.'

Digitized by Google

Spartum or spartium, though now properly confined by botanists to the plant called Spanish-broom, was formerly extended to the genista, or common-broom of the heath. Prior to the use of flax and hemp, it was generally employed in the manufacture of ropes and cordage, whence *spartum* has been derived by many etymologists from σπειρω, or σπειραω, *to roll* or *wind round*. M. Ameilhon dislikes the common derivation, and offers another in its stead. Originally, the Greeks denominated the genista or broom σχοινος, which, in consequence, became shortly afterwards a common term for a band or cord; as, from *juncus* in Latin, which is another name for the genista, was perhaps derived the term *jungo*, *jungere*, *to tie* or *join together*. He endeavours to prove that the spot most celebrated for the growth and manufacture of the σχοινος, or broom, was Sparta and its vicinity; and that this Spartan cordage, or σχοινος, was hence, in process of time, designated by the name of the place whence it was chiefly vended, as well as the plant of which it was manufactured; in like manner as we now denominate many of our hempen cloths Russias, and our linens Irishes. There is no end to etymologies; but the present may at least stand till a better take its place.

'XIX. The Siren and the Voyager. By M. Selis.'

Another short colloquy in rhyme, which we have seen inserted in several of our own newspapers; for which it seems much better calculated, as a mere *jeu d'esprit*, than for its present position among grave and critical memoirs.

'XX. Antiquities of the Town of Treves. By M. Peyre.'

Treves is one of the most ancient towns of Gaul; and it becomes more interesting still by the immense number of ancient monuments which it yet exhibits, by its vast extent, and its situation on the Moselle, a powerful river, which, after meandering through a valley embellished on either side with the most beautiful hillocks, unites its waters with those of the Rhine, at Coblentz, at the distance of about twenty leagues. Hither Constantine frequently resorted, as to an asylum from concerns of state; and in earlier periods still it was the Elysium of the Romans. At the present day, its numerous vestiges of antique monuments, its superb Gothic buildings, its magnificent palaces, its modern churches, enriched with invaluable paintings, and ornamented with marble pillars, the beauty of its streets, and the clear abundant waters that enliven them, its variety of public places, embellished with perpetual fountains, groupes of statues, and other sculptures in bronze and marble, cannot fail to afford infinite entertainment to the young traveler who occasionally makes it his residence. The principal object of M. Peyre, however, is to prove that the extensive range of ruins upon which one of the gates of the town as well as one of the churches are erected, was formerly a bathing-pa-

Digitized by Google

lace. If this be true, it must have been elevated upon a prodigious scale indeed—an observation, nevertheless, which by no means opposes the idea; for many of the warm baths of the ancients were constructed upon the most grand and luxurious plan imaginable. Those of Dioclesian, for example, if we may credit the testimony of Pietro Rossini, were so immense, that not less than three thousand two hundred persons were able to bathe at the same time without seeing each other. The author has subjoined seven plates, illustrative of his conjecture.

'XXI. Ode. By M. Lebrun.'

With this paper the volume closes. M. Lebrun's Ode is a paraphrase on the 'Exegi monumentum ære perennius' of Horace, in which he takes care to assure himself of at least as large a portion of immortality as the Roman bard. A note, suppended to the first page of the poem, informs us that 'this piece, as is obvious, is intended to terminate the volume of M. Lebrun's Odes.' This information is highly necessary; for, in its present position, we could not avoid thinking, as we began to read it, that it had a direct and entire reference to the present volume of the Memoirs of the National Institute; and it still seems to us to answer a kind of double purpose. As to the Odes of M. Lebrun himself, we know but little of them; yet the present will not save him from the perdition he seems so much to despise.

To the Memoirs is added an Appendix, comprising a notice of a book printed at Bamberg in 1462 by Albert Pfister, and contained in a volume presented to the National Library in the month of Pluviose, year 7. By M. Camus. The book here particularised is an imprinted missal in small folio, and in the German tongue. It consists of three parts: the first being a dialogue between Death and a person who has lost several beloved friends by his ravages—here entitled *Complaints against Death*, but by M. Heineche, who has also described the same book, an *Allegory on Death*. The second part comprehends the four histories; to wit, of Joseph, Daniel, Judith, and Esther. The third is a *Biblia Pauperum*, or Poor Man's Bible; by which denomination is meant extracts from the Bible collected about the ninth century, for the use of those whose poverty prevented them from purchasing the Bible at large, or whose constant routine of labour from perusing it. M. Camus contends that the present is the only copy extant of this very early publication, and that it is the identical volume announced by M. Steiner, in Meusel's Historical, Literary, and Bibliographical Magazine, printed at Chemnitz in 1792, to have been then just discovered. The chief use of the book, so far at least as it appears to us, is to prove that the art of printing was known at an æra somewhat earlier than that to which its invention is ordinarily attributed.

Digitized by Google

We have now finished our review of the second volume published by each of the three classes into which the National Institute is divided; and are in consequence enabled in some measure to appreciate the talents of its contributors, and the utility of their labours. Having already offered a few observations upon the papers afforded us by the Physical and Mathematical department, we shall here confine ourselves to the two classes whose memoirs are alone noticed in the present article: and the first extraordinary fact that strikes us, is the paucity of those who have contributed to the publication. Upon the average, every class consists of about one hundred members, each of whom ought to have contributed, in turn, something worthy of public inspection. The first volume, however, of the class of Moral and Political Sciences consists but of seventeen memoirs, and these the production of eleven members alone. This want of variety in the first volume we were ready to suppose originated from the actual state of France, and the infancy of the establishment itself; and we had no doubt that it would be amply compensated in the volume which was to succeed. Our readers will, however, be astonished to find, on a re-perusal of our analysis, that the second volume of the same class comprises not more than *twelve* memoirs, which are the joint production of only *five* contributors out of very nearly one hundred members, of whom this class consists. The class of Literature and Polite Arts, as embracing a greater variety of subjects, presents us, undoubtedly, with a greater variety of writers; but our readers will think the same observation applicable, when, on a retrospect, they calculate for themselves that the first volume of this department contains not more than twenty-nine memoirs, composed by twenty-one members, several of which are short poetical effusions; and that the second comprises only twenty memoirs, of which thirteen are the production of five members alone. Is it that the great body of the Institute are indolent or incapable, that the entire task of composition is thus devolved on a handful of the more active and industrious? or that, as sometimes unfortunately occurs in other public societies, it requires no small degree of personal interest to obtain an introduction to the public eye? Be this as it may, the want of a sufficient variety both of writers and subjects cannot but be felt by every one who critically peruses the labours of the Institute, and is the unquestionable cause why complete treatises on particular topics, amounting occasionally to upwards of 200 pages, and constituting each of them a bulky volume of itself, are thrust into the present publication under the misapplied name of Memoirs. As to the style of the writers here presented to us, we may say of all of them in general, that it is too loose and diffuse; that, in many instances, no clear idea

Digitized by Google

is communicated of the author's object and intention; while, in many of the more abstruse and metaphysical papers, when an idea is once attempted to be rendered precise, and, if we may be allowed the expression, *tangible*, it is lost in a wood of words, and we are compelled to begin the hunt again, and retrace the ground we had already trodden. Were most of the articles compressed into half the space they now occupy, they would be at least doubled in their value; the writer's object would in general be rendered far more clear and comprehensive; and he would be disburdened, in many instances, of a vast incumbrance of idle and affected learning, which discovers more of the superficial pedagogue than the profound but unobtrusive scholar.

These and other similar objections—we now speak from personal knowledge—have hitherto operated against presenting the Memoirs of the National Institute to the public in an English dress. We know that arrangements for this purpose have been twice attempted by different scholars well qualified for the task; but, from the defects we have now summarily pointed out, the version in both instances has been relinquished, and we have now no idea of seeing any such attempt revived.

The National Institute is however but at present in its infancy; it has had many difficulties and perplexities to struggle with; it was born in the midmost uproar of thunder and tempest; and perhaps we should, after all, rather express our surprise that it has been capable of maintaining its existence at all, than that it should have made no further progress towards perfection. Constituted as it seems to be for many of the best purposes of science, the sincerest wish of our heart is—ESTO PERPETUUS.

We have received the third volume of the different classes, and shall commence a critical analysis of them in our next Appendix.

ART. V.—*Vie Polémique de Voltaire, ou Histoire de ses Proscriptions, avec les Pièces justificatives. Par G****y.* Paris. 1802.

*Polemic Life of Voltaire, or History of his Proscriptions; with vindicatory Papers. By G****y.* 8vo. Imported by De Boffe.

THE vanity and irritability of Voltaire are well known; and the arch-poet of France, with Boileau, and our own countryman Pope, may well justify the sarcasm, and establish the title of '*genus irritabile.*' Neither could 'bear a brother near his throne;' and Jean Baptiste Rousseau, Quinault, and Theobald, with many others, might have descended to posterity with no inconsiderable credit, had they not encountered the grey goose-quill of these satirists. Perhaps, indeed, we injure Pope and

Digitized by Google

Boileau by classing them with Voltaire. They were goaded by abuse long before they retaliated; but they retaliated at last with little mercy, and not always with justice or discrimination. Voltaire, on the contrary, had always a quill to direct on every side where he did not find a flatterer, or sometimes where any thing smart or witty occurred. Neither friendship nor obligations could check the sarcasm which he thought might in the end redound to his own credit. It is not singular, therefore, that his polemic life fills a large volume. We have read it with pleasure, because it recalls the little disputes which once entertained us; and with some information, as explaining what, perhaps from the distance of the scene, was before unaccountable. The work commences with spirit and elegance.

'The life of the great Condé, painted in the gallery of Chantilly, represented, on one side, the Historic Muse tearing from the collection of that prince's actions the leaves that contained those in which he opposed his king and his country: on the other side the hero stops the trumpet of Fame, preparing to publish both his good and his bad actions. If the statues erected to Voltaire had thus represented him treading under foot the infamous collection of pamphlets published in violation of truth and decency, and the poet rejecting, with an air of indignation and tears of penitence, that pen of iron and dirt, which has mangled religion and destroyed the characters of literary men, we would willingly have dispensed with the publication of the present work. But far different were these sentiments from those of the hero of literature. He never wished to check the progress of those publications which have sullied his glory. In his extreme age we have seen him give a new current to the bitterness of his bile; direct fresh attacks against Christianity, and those who defended and respected it. We may say that his genius acquired new vigour when inspired by hatred or impiety.'

M. G****y next explains his object more clearly, and the plan which he has followed; but the work does not require such minute detail. We shall give the outline of the contents, and some specimens of the author's manner, which is on every occasion manly and judicious. He shows a regulated zeal in favour of religion, decency, and propriety, which strongly interests us in his favour.

The first antagonist of Voltaire was Jean Baptiste Rousseau, the Pindar of France. The genius of Jean *Baptiste*, who must not be confounded with Jean *Jacques*, was not of the first class; and he had faults sufficient to justify the criticism, though not to justify the critic, who had been patronised by Rousseau in his early youth, and was only offended by his

Digitized by Google

not joining in general indiscriminate applause of Voltaire's first works, particularly that of Zara.

The abbé Desfontaines offended Voltaire by some 'judicious and moderate reflexions' on the Death of Cæsar; but, if we recollect rightly, however judicious, they were by no means moderate. Voltaire, however, did not carry his resentment so high as in the first instance; and the effects are little known beyond the country which gave them birth.

Maupertuis, president of the Berlin Academy, was another antagonist of Voltaire; and at this moment we cannot properly appreciate the merits of the dispute. The author, as usual, adopts the cause of the president. Maupertuis was not a very acute philosopher, nor a brilliant genius*; and Voltaire, who undoubtedly irritated him by accusing him of plagiarism from Leibnitz, was irritated in turn by the king's adopting the cause of the president. We find in this volume an explanation of Frederic's conduct; which Voltaire, in his Memoirs, represents as unreasonable and capricious. Voltaire cannot answer for himself; but this narrative is supported by collateral evidence. We shall add Voltaire's letter to the secretary of the Berlin Academy, as it has never yet been published in his works.

'Mr., eternal, Secretary,

'I send you the death-warrant which the president has issued against me, with my appeal to the public, and the protections sent me by all the physicians and apothecaries of Leipsic. You see that the president does not confine himself to the experiments which he projected in the northern regions, and that he is resolved to separate in the north my soul from my body. It is the first time that a president has wished to kill one of his counsellors. Is this the principle of the 'least action'†?' What a terrible man is this president? He declares himself guilty of forgery on one hand, and assassinates on the other; and proves the existence of a God by $\frac{a+b}{n}$. In truth I have seen nothing like it; but, sir, I have made one little reflexion. When the president has killed, dissected, and buried me, he must pronounce my *éloge* to the Academy, according to laudable customs. If this should be his lot, he will be somewhat embarrassed. We know how much he was so with the marshal de Sch—metteau, to whom he had given some uneasiness during his life. If you, sir, make my funeral oration,

* Even his accuracy in the measurement of a degree of the meridian in the arctic circle has lately been impeached.

† The subject on which it was asserted that Maupertuis had stolen from Leibnitz.

Digitized by Google

you will be scarcely less embarrassed. You are a priest, and I am a deist: you are a Calvinist, and I am a papist: you are an author, and I am the same: you are in health, and I am a physician. So, sir, to escape this office, and to put the world at rest, suffer me to die by the hands of the president, and erase me from your list. You will perceive that, being condemned by his sentence, I shall probably be degraded. Erase me then from your catalogue, and place me with the Kœnig accused of forgery, who had however the misfortune to be right. I shall wait with patience for death with this culprit—*pariterque cadentes, ignovere deis.*

'I am, sir, *metaphysically*, yours, &c.'

With M. Beaumelle Voltaire quarrelled at Berlin; but Beaumelle gave the first provocation, though he was afterwards pursued by Voltaire with a pertinacity and malignity which nothing could excuse. St. Hyacinthe was also the aggressor, and Voltaire only made the accusation public by his notice of it; but the dispute never became very interesting. His quarrel with Vernet arose from the unfavorable account given of Geneva in his History, and in the Encyclopædia. This Vernet resented, though he allowed that some years before he had offered his assistance as editor of the former work. It does not however appear that the offensive parts were then in existence, or at least that Vernet was acquainted with them: besides, Vernet was a man of true religion, irreproachable integrity, and decency of conduct. The contrast was too great to be borne with patience by the philosopher of Ferney.

The quarrel with M. de Pompignan is not very intelligibly related; but it contains a very humorous, though probably a fictitious, or at least an embellished, account of a deputation, at the head of which was M. l'Archer, the learned translator of Herodotus, to examine Voltaire's proficiency in Greek. They found him, it is said, reading Greek authors with the assistance of wretched translations; and forbade him to speak of, or write concerning, Greek literature again. One foundation of the quarrel seems to have been M. de Pompignan's translation of Pope's Universal Prayer. Voltaire's attack on M. Le Franc, bishop of Puy, seems wholly unprovoked and unjustifiable.

The abbé Ronotte had filled two duodecimo volumes with the mistakes occurring in Voltaire's General History. This was enough to rouse the historian's resentment; but it is displayed in the lowest abuse, and continued far beyond the period that even unmerited severity would justify. The abbé's work, however, is remarkably temperate and judicious.

The marquis Maffei, author of the Italian Merope, was introduced to and flattered by Voltaire at Paris. Voltaire, however, unfortunately copied from the Italian tragedy; and from

Digitized by Google

that time the credit of his own was, in his opinion, only to rest on the destruction of that of his prototype. It must be owned that Voltaire has improved on the original; but his character was not enhanced by the attack.

The Oracle of the new Philosophers was the work of the abbé Guyon; and in it the sophisms of Voltaire were assailed—perhaps refuted. No more was necessary to make the abbé the object of the poet's satire and hatred. M. Fréron was a more decided enemy, and pursued Voltaire in all his doublings, and opposed all his pretensions: Fréron was therefore the object of still greater resentment. Indeed Voltaire seems never weary of abusing him.

The quarrel between Voltaire and Jean *Jaques* Rousseau is well known. It is attributed to the recommendation of an established theatre at Geneva in the Encyclopædia, and to Rousseau's opposition. Whatever may have been the cause, Voltaire was the constant enemy of Jean Jaques, even in the early moments when he appeared to overwhelm him with praise. Which was the greater offender, we can scarcely say. Our author, as usual, condemns Voltaire.

Bishop Warburton was once highly praised by Voltaire; but the latter having, by a kind of alchymy—in the opinion of many no very difficult task—extracted infidelity from the Divine Legation, Warburton corrected his mistakes and erroneous quotations. *Hinc illæ lacrymæ.* Warburton was no longer the 'learned bishop,' the 'sagacious inquirer;' he was scarcely superior to Fréron. M. Coger published an Examination of Belisarius; and Coger was a scribbler, an ignoramus, an assassin, and, if possible, worse. L'Archer attacked the Philosophy of History, and showed it to be a string of blunders and misrepresentations. Hence L'Archer was accused of the worst of crimes. Against Gresset he published nothing; but he did him, in private letters, the greatest injuries. An excellent letter of Haller's is preserved in this chapter, but too long for insertion.

The last chapter contains the occasional darts from the 'fretful porcupine,' who attacked all those who did not think him supreme in science and belles lettres, in philosophy and history, in poetry and criticism. On the whole, we perceive in this work too great a portion of the spirit of invective and resentment. Voltaire deserved much of this return; for he was often, perhaps almost always, reprehensible. Yet our author has occasionally gone too far, and magnified the merit of his enemies, while he has depressed his own. The life and character of Voltaire still require a calm dispassionate critic. In those departments where he has erred most grossly, he has done many things well. In dramatic poetry, he has carried the fame

Digitized by Google

of France to its highest pitch. His real knowledge of philosophy and ancient history was undoubtedly inconsiderable; and when he speaks of religion, he shows a more gross ignorance, and a more abject credulity, than have ever disgraced the followers of the lowest superstition. Every thing ridiculous was admitted into his writings, if he thought it aimed a blow against revelation.

ART. VI.—*Histoire Naturelle des Poissons.*

The Natural History of Fishes. By C. La Cépède. Vol. III. 4to.

OUR author's language was somewhat equivocal; for we supposed, and we suspect, that he, at the time, intended to convey the idea, that the third volume would be the last. We now find, however, that two others will follow; but the impression of the fourth is very nearly complete, and the fifth is seemingly in forwardness. The great number of new species is one cause of this extended bulk; for, in the present volume, of 298 species described, 100 were hitherto unknown. The genera are forty-eight, of which thirty-four are new. Of the 610 species described in these three volumes, 154 are new, but some of these are probably varieties alone. The number of plates in this volume, on account of the additional extent of the work, is not so great as was promised; we find thirty-four only.

The descriptions are preceded by a discourse on the influence of art on the nature of fishes; and its object is to show the different contrivances which human industry has executed, to obtain the greatest quantity of fishes for the use of man. M. La Cépède, at first, engages in the details of fishery; but is by no means acquainted with the subject, in its full extent, and all its varieties, for it would furnish a large and interesting volume. He next offers the means of multiplying the reproduction of fishes. 'The statesman,' says he, 'should consider fisheries as a second agriculture. The country gentleman should adopt them as a new source of riches and pleasure.' He shows methods of carrying and accustoming fishes to new situations, multiplying and improving them. The method of crossing the breeds succeeds as well with fishes as with other animals. The other means of improving them are, abundant and suitable nourishment, security, repose, and the proper choice of the parent stocks. Fishes, we find, are sometimes subject to epidemics, which can only be conveyed to them by deleterious miasmata in an aërial form. We must, however, repeat the observation, that citizen La Cépède is scarcely acquainted with any fishes beyond those in a glass vase or a pond.

Digitized by Google

After the essay in this volume, we find a continuation of the table of the nineteenth order of the class of fishes, or the third order of the first division of osseous fishes. We shall pursue the genus scomber, which was left unfinished in the second volume, as we noticed in the article respecting it in our 32d volume, New Arr. p. 562. The scomber germen is a new species, known to Commerson, and described in his MSS. It has been noticed by various navigators, and called by some 'long ear,' but never been distinguished in any publication. The S. thazard is also new, from the same collection: this species has been applied indiscriminately to many of the scombri, but is now properly limited. The S. bonite is the S. pelamis or pelamide of Linnæus and other naturalists. The S. Sinensis is described, in general terms, from a Chinese drawing. The scomber scombrus, the mackarel, is well known, and our author gives a good account of their migrations. They appear, from the observations of vice-admiral Pleville de Peley, to remain in a torpid state in the shallows, covered with snow, in the winter, and to recover their senses and sight very slowly. The κολιας of Aristotle, the S. colias of Linnæus, our author supposes to have been the mackarel. The scomber described by Sloane is added, with the trivial name of albacoras, which is thus limited to a single species, though this is not the first time that the term has been confined.

The next genus is a new one, the scomberoides; and the three species, the S. Noel, Commersonianus, and saltator, are in a great measure new. The last was indeed known to Plumier.

The sixty-second genus is the caranx, usually confounded with the scomber, but properly separated from it. Our readers may recognise it, when we remark that its principal species is called on the coast the horse-mackarel. We think we have remarked that the poisonous fishes are peculiarly distinguished by a disgusting appearance; and we know none of this kind which would not repel by such appearance any desire to taste it. The horse-mackarel is of this kind: its colour and shape, though approaching the pleasing form of the mackarel, is however yellow and frightful; nor is it without suspicion of being occasionally deleterious. The species are divided, as distinguished by many isolated points between the dorsal fins, or without them. The C. trachurus is the scomber trachurus of Linnæus, and the generic name is affixed from the peculiar projection of the fore part of the head. The C. amia, chrysurus, glaucus, and albus, are arranged by Linnæus under the genus scomber, with the same trivial names. The C. erithurus is the scomber hippos of Linnæus; the C. filamentosus is described by Mungo Parke in the Linnæan Transactions; the C. Daubentonii was described in the MSS. of Plumier. The C. speciosus (very beautiful) was described by Linnæus; and the C. carangua is de-

Digitized by Google

scribed from the drawings of Plumier. The C. ferdau, goese, sansun, and korab, were known to Linnæus: the second had the trivial name of fulvo-guttatus, and the last that of ignobilis. These are all inhabitants of the Red Sea, and form the second section of the genus.

The sixty-third genus is also taken from the scombri, and styled trachinotus. The only species is the T. falcatus, the scomber falcatus of Linnæus.

The sixty-fourth is the caranxomorus. The scomber pelagicus of Linnæus, and a new species from Plumier, with his own trivial name.

The sixty-fifth genus is entitled cæsio; and in this genus our author has included the cœrulaureus described by Commerson, and the equulus, placed by Forskall in the middle of the scombri, and by Gmelin among the centrogasteri.

The cæsiomorus is a new genus, containing two new species; one denominated from Baillon, the other from Block. The coris is also a new genus; and for its two species, the C. aygula and angulatus, we are apparently indebted to Commerson. The two species of the genus gomphosis, the G. cœruleus and varius, are derived from the same collection.

The chætodon unicornis of Linnæus, with a new discovered species by Commerson, form, in our author's hands, a new genus under the name of naso; and the two species are N. fronticornis and tuberosus. A new genus is formed also under the name of kyphosus; of which there is only one species, the bigibbus, from its two protuberances.

The goramy—we mean the Chinese goramy, for the name has been given also to a species of trichopodes—is arranged under a new genus, the osphronemus, which contains only one other species, the O. gallus. The goramy, brought from China, has greatly multiplied in Bengal, and become one of the most delicate, and, from its size, one of the most valuable of the fresh-water fishes. The O. gallus is arranged by Linnæus under the genus labrus. The genus trichopodus contains two species—the T. mentum, which has not yet been included in any system, and is called by navigators the goramy, and the T. tricopterus, labrus tricopterus of Linnæus. The next is a new species and a new genus from Commerson, the monodactylus falciformis. That which follows is also new, the plectorinchus chætodontoides; the generic name derived from the singular folds of the muzzle. The pogonias fasciatus is a new individual, constituting a new genus from the singular beard on the lower jaw. In the bostrichus, another new genus, the whiskers are on the upper jaw; and two species are described, the B. Sinensis and maculatus: the former taken from Chinese drawings. The bostrychoides oculatus is from the same source.

The echeneis is a Linnæan genus; and the E. remora, or the

Digitized by Google

sucking-fish, is known from its sticking in numbers to the keels of ships, and retarding—described somewhat too poetically in the volume before us—their course. The E. naucrates occurs also in Gmelin's edition, and the E. lineata is described in the Linnæan Transactions.

The macrourus is a genus formed by Block; and the M. berglex of La Cépède is the M. rupestris of Block, the coryphæna rupestris of Linnæus. The trivial name is of northern origin, from its resemblance to a species of salmon, with a similar appellation.

The dolphin coryphæna is a very extensive genus, whose ranks have however been thinned by later naturalists. The C. hippurus, aurata (equiselis L.), undulata (fasciolata L.), pompilus, cœrulea, Plumieri, novacula, psittacus, sima, lineata, acuta, and viridus, were known to the latest editor of the Linnæan system. The C. chrysurus and scombroides are from Commerson: the C. Sinensis from some Chinese drawings.

The hæmipteronotus is very properly made a distinct genus: it contains the coryphæna pentadactyla, under the trivial name of quinquemaculatus, and the C. hemiptera Linn. with the specific appellation of Gmelini. The form of the branchial apertures has induced our author to separate the coryphæna branchiostega under a new genus, with the very improper title of coryphænoides. The specific distinction is from Hottuyn.

M. La Cépède has separated from the cotti those fishes covered with hard scales resembling rings, and formed a new genus entitled aspidophorus. The first is A. armatus, the cottus calaphractus of Linnæus; the second the A. lisiza, C. Japonicus L. The C. monopterygius L. is, we think improperly, separated from the aspidophori, under the exceptionable title of aspidophoroides Tranquebar. The cottus is a well known genus, and the C. grunniens, scorpius, quadricornis, scaber, insidiator, and gobio, are the same with the Linnæan species. The cottus Australis is from New South Wales; the C. Madegascar and Niger from Commerson.

The genus scorpæna is also not greatly changed from the Linnæan system. We find the S. horrida, Africana (Capensis L.), spinosa, Massiliensis (referred by L. to the genus cottus which it greatly resembles), rascassa (porcus L.), scrofa, didactyla, and volitans of former authors. There are also several new ones, viz. the S. aculeata, from the Museum of Natural History, the bicirrata and mahe from Commerson; the barbata from Gronovius; Plumieri from the MSS. of that naturalist; and Americana from Du Hamel.

A fish found on the shores of Martinico by Plumier was referred by him to the scombri; but, from the drawing preserved in the Museum, it appears to be a different fish, and is inserted in this volume under the generic name of scombromorus.

Digitized by Google

The gasterosteus contains the three Linnæan species, aculeatus, pungilius, and spinachia. The centropus rhombeus from Forskâl is one of the species of centrogaster; and under the genus centrogaster we find the two Linnæan species, fusceseens and argentatus. The three following genera, the centronotus, the lepisacanthus, and the cephalacanthus, are separated from the numerous genus of gasterosteus, from circumstances apparently too minute and refined, but perhaps, on the whole, with sufficient propriety. They are of little importance, and contain no great number of individuals, if we except the pilot-fishes.

The flying-fishes are separated from the extensive genus of trigla, and divided into two genera—the dactylopterus, or those whose wings are attached to the fingers; and the prionotus, from the spines on the back. The triglæ are still sufficiently numerous. We find the T. lyra, Asiatica, Carolina, lastoviza (Adriatica L.), hirundo, gurnardus, milvus (lucerna, L.), and minuta of former authors. The T. punctata and pini from Block, and the cavilone from Rondelet. The T. cataphracta L. is separated under another genus, by our author, on account of the bony plates with which the upper part of the body is covered, under the name of peristedion, with the trivial name of marmalat; and another species, the P. chabrontera, from Osbeck, is added.

The flying sword-fish is under the genus istiophorus, with the specific name of gladifer. It is sometimes called the sea-woodcock. The gymnetrus hawken of Block also forms a separate genus, though admitted as such with some hesitation.

The mullus is an extensive genus, and one of the few articles of food in which modern luxury agrees with the ancient. The species are numerous, and many of them new. The mullus ruber (barbatus L.), surmuletus, auriflamma, Japonicus, vittatus, and maculatus (surmuletus var. B. L.), were known to former authors. From the manuscripts of Commerson our author has added M. bifasciatus, cyclostomus, trifasciatus, macronemus, barberinus, rubescens, cryserydros, and flavo lineatus. The absence of the whiskers fully justifies M. La Cépède in separating the mullus imberbis. He has formed a new genus for it, under the name of apogon: it contains only one species. The lonchurus is a new genus also from Block; viz. the long-tailed, from the length of the filament, which terminates each thoracic fin. Another new genus is proposed for a beautiful fish known only from Chinese drawings; and it is entitled macropodus viridi-auratus.

Though our article might be extended farther, and comprehend the remainder of the volume, yet we shall now stop. The seventeen genera which follow form one vast family of more than 200 species, which differ by almost imperceptible gradations, so as to mock the attempts of the ablest systematic.

Digitized by Google

It will be therefore necessary to survey them at one view, which we can do with advantage when the whole is before us. The best naturalists have hitherto failed in this part; and even Block's system is imperfect; for he has not comprised all the species known at this time; and many others are added by our author. Of the seventeen genera which constitute this groupe only five are noticed in the present volume; and the fourth, as we have said, is not yet published.

VII.—*Néologie, ou Vocabulaire de Mots Nouveaux, &c.* Paris.

Neology, or a Vocabulary of new Words—Words to be renewed or to be taken in new Acceptations. By L. S. Mercier, Member of the National Institute of France. 2 *Vols.* 8vo. Imported by De Boffe. 1801.

TO these volumes is prefixed a smirking portrait, which Lavater might safely pronounce to indicate decided fatuity and petulance in the author; while the puffing inscription at the bottom is in strict harmony with it. Yet Mercier has published works which have attracted some notice, from a kind of scatter-brained genius and eccentricity, sometimes wise and sometimes foolish. How he came to be born at Paris we cannot conceive, as he is certainly by birth a Gascon, of a pert dull liveliness, and perpetual fanfaronade. This book is another Night-cap, full of his own head and of himself;—*mais sa tête est trop proche de son bonnet.*

There is nothing illaudable in the attempt to introduce new words into the French language, or to renew strong and emphatic expressions which have become antiquated; for the tame academy in the time of Lewis XIV., by a pretended purification, only shackled the language, and, by their preposterous bandages, rendered it almost lifeless. Hence there was neither force nor soul left sufficient to constitute an epic poem, or any grand production in blank verse. But, in any attempt of this kind, more taste and judgement, and particularly more good sense, were requisite, than have fallen to the lot of Mercier, whose ideas are uncommonly wild and gigantic. The latter quality of good sense, though abundantly displayed in their scientific productions, yet seems particularly scarce in France, in many things that relate to politics, and what are called works of genius. The vanity and fatuity of many late French novels, memoirs, &c. which have deeply impressed us not only with the absence of good sense, but even with the negation of common sense, the chief objects aimed at, appear to us to be what are called *esprit*, and a kind of elocution which we believe was first introduced by Rousseau, and was rendered fashionable by the

Digitized by Google

women whose feelings he was artful enough to court, but of which whole pages may be read without learning any thing. We heartily wish that an academy of good sense were instituted in France, which is more necessary than any other institution whatever. We daily see issued from the press works of history, and other branches of science, without any references to the authorities; so that the whole becomes a romance, and the reputation expires with the author. Thus Raynal's History of the East and West Indies was at first received as a grand and important production, but has since sunk into disesteem, because, upon recurring to the proper authorities which must have been used, it is found to swarm with a thousand errors. This fate might have been avoided, if he had marked his authorities at the bottom of his page, as usual in the classical productions of other countries—a practice which, by its very nature, would have taught him solidity and veracity, and have secured to his book a lasting foundation. In like manner even the eloquence of Buffon begins to yield and fade away, because every page has its errors, because he is full of ridiculous prejudices and absurd theories, and because an author, who gravely asserts that black cattle shed their horns every three years, must have been a total stranger to that practical knowledge which is the chief requisite in treating natural history.

To return: our author begins with a preface of seventy-six pages, for he has an eternal flux of the mouth, and of course sometimes blunders upon good things, which are fortunately remembered, while the rest are forgotten. He informs us, p. xli. that the French language has neither turns, constructions, nor periods, because the words cannot be arranged as one pleases! At this rate there are neither turns, constructions, nor periods in any language, as they wholly depend upon the idiom. We must whisper to Mercier, that he is grossly ignorant; and, such is the fate of France, that the literary character seems, with a few exceptions, to be confined to eloquence without knowledge, and to knowledge without eloquence! The ancient philosophers were men of profound learning, who often dedicated their lives to acquire solid and practical knowledge of certain topics; while the modern, and the French in particular, with Rousseau at their head, are disgraced by the grossest ignorance which they attempt to disguise by the varnish of eloquence. In the same page our author promises an universal dictionary of the French language, for which he is just as qualified as the learned pig. We should be glad to see a new French and English dictionary; for the best we have wants about four thousand words. Our author proceeds to tell us, that he published, a long time ago, a novel called *L'Homme Sauvage*, which bears the character of a writer created to impose silence on the whole crowd of foolish critics with whom France

Digitized by Google

abounds.' We wish that Bonaparte would erect two temples at Paris—one dedicated to good sense, and the other to modesty; but we are afraid that the worshippers would be few. The author's detestation of atheism we highly approve, though we look upon Mercier as rather a distorted pillar of the temple of religion.

'I have, besides, a singular quality in my eye, which is inborn. When I hear a man speak in public, unfold his learning, raise trophies upon what he has said, speak of his own genius, and his own taste, I see around his chair a multitude of little infantine faces which laugh maliciously, point to the quack, jeer at his words, and exhibit every mark of compassion. These are certainly the generation about to be born which I thus perceive.'

All this so completely applies to our author, that we think we see him in his arm-chair, speaking, as he does in the present work, of his own wonderful productions, while the little faces of posterity are convulsed with laughter.

The preface ends, and the work begins, with an attack upon sir Isaac Newton, against whom our author has repeatedly declared his enmity. To speak in the veterinary language, we suppose that he has taken a *scare* at Newton, whose writings must infinitely surpass his comprehension. It is besides natural that a wrong-headed and eccentric writer should have a mortal hatred to solid judgement and laborious investigation.

The work itself consists of an alphabetical arrangement of words, accompanied with remarks—sometimes just, but more frequently ignorant and petulant. As they often turn upon mere shades of a foreign language, it cannot be supposed to interest the English reader. A very few specimens must suffice.

'Alarmist. The astronomer Lalande was a great alarmist about thirty years ago, on account of a memoir read to the Academy of Sciences, in which he admitted the possibility of a comet striking the earth. Versailles was frightened, and threatened the alarmist with the Bastile if he had any relapse.

'Amphores. Set on my table these two amphores of crystal, and pour in the red wine: nothing is more pleasant to the eye. I wish to banish the ignoble word bottle.'

The author had far better adopted the English word decanter. But his deplorable ignorance shines even here—for two *amphoræ* would crush his table to pieces, and probably break the shins of the etymologist. A similar learning appears, vol. i. p. 90, where he gravely informs us that the emperor Maximilian I. who aspired to be pope, was one of the successors of Charles V. Is it necessary to tell M. Mercier that Maximilian was the grandfather of Charles V.? A more consummate ignorance of the commonest points of modern history never was displayed; and we could easily mention the names

of thirty very great modern French philosophers, who have unhappily the talent of writing without having read any thing, and who in England or Scotland would not be thought qualified to teach in a country school. A dissertation on ignorant philosophy, with a catalogue of ignorant philosophers, would form a most interesting work, and of the most solid and lasting advantage to society: for experience has sufficiently proved, that nothing can be more dangerous to any country, than for men to pretend to teach who have not themselves learned.

'DESCRIBER. All those who are candid will allow that Homer, who is regarded as a gigantic genius, has only a few excellent passages; that his naps are long and frequent; and that, in spite of his fifteen hundred commentators and translators, he is monotonous, verbose, and a describer even to satiety.'

It was natural that he who attacks Newton should also attack Homer. But we must inform our author, that he is only as good a judge of both as a blind man is of colours.

'PHANTASMAGORIA. A play of optics, which displays all the multiplied and delicate conflicts of light and shade, and which reveals at the same time the ancient tricks of priests. These moving phantoms, created at will, these false appearances, amuse the vulgar, and make the philosopher think. What is the spectre of the mirror, or in the mirror? Does it exist, or does it not exist? What a prodigious tenuity of coloured rays! What an astonishing medium between matter which we feel, and spirit which we cannot touch! O spectre! O spectre! O figurability! what art thou? It has not yet been discovered how to form a large spectacle of these curious and surprising experiments. Instead of these puerile illuminations, this uniform, miserable, and confined repetition, command the ingenious Robertson to show us, dancing on the roofs of the houses, impalpable beings as tall as the towers of Notre Dame. These extraordinary and marvellous spectacles would form naturalists and admirers of nature, which would be better than mad purchasers of paintings, against whom I prepare a good article.'

The article Genius might in like manner be selected as another specimen of absurdity; but we are already tired and disgusted with this strange monument of ignorance and self-importance. At the end, Mercier advertises a work of 400 pages, on the physical impossibility of the system of Copernicus, and of the chimera called the Newtonian attraction!

Digitized by Google

ART. VIII.—*Géographie Moderne et Universelle, &c.* Paris.

Modern and Universal Geography, preceded by a Treatise on the Sphere, and an Abstract of Astronomy, &c. By Nicolle de la Croix. A new Edition, &c. By Victor Comeiras. 2 *Vols.* 8*vo.* Imported by De Boffe.

THE Geography of La Croix is well known as the best abridgment in the French language; and it has in consequence passed through a great number of editions. We know nothing of Comeiras the present editor; but can safely pronounce, upon an inspection of various parts, that he is wholly unqualified for the task he has undertaken, and, instead of pretending to teach geography, should himself go to school. His assertion, that Guthrie, or rather his late editors, have been greatly indebted to La Croix, is very true; but certainly no author will ever be indebted to Victor Comeiras. The few maps are of 1781, and are already antiquated by more recent discoveries.

The book of La Croix, having been composed about a century ago, must naturally have received many additions and improvements by different editors: the manner is tedious and confused, and not adapted to the progress and precision of modern information. Many of the topics have also long since ceased to interest the public. As to the present editor, he has left all the errors as he found them, and has added many others of his own. We have only to refer the geographical student to the general account of rivers (vol. i. p. 80), in which almost every thing is erroneous, and very few of the names are even rightly spelled. It would be beneath the dignity of science to point out errors so completely puerile. We shall merely observe, that the whole chapter is the most complete and risible piece of ignorance that we have met with in any book published within a century. Upon turning to the edition of La Croix, Paris, 1786, we find that he has been contented (vol. i. p. 53) with a bare enumeration of the names of the chief rivers; so that to his wonderful editor Comeiras alone, are we indebted for a series of blunders that would disgrace the twelfth century—such as the vast rivers Menamion and Sinderoias, neither of which exist in nature. Amidst such fables, the error (p. 82) in confounding the Niger with the Senegal becomes nothing, though of itself sufficiently portentous at the present day. To our readers who wish to indulge their risible faculties we may recommend the perusal of the entire chapter, which is to us wholly unaccountable; except that the editor, in the true spirit of quackery, thought his dreams or inventions would be gravely received

Digitized by Google

as proofs of superior knowledge! He proceeds to tell us that the greatest cataract in the world is that of *Terny*, a little town on the road from Rome to Bologna! Thus our author had never heard of Niagara, of the Nile, &c. &c.

Ex pede Herculem. From this specimen our readers will judge of the editor's qualifications, and will be led directly to prefer the old cheap editions of La Croix to this farrago of inanity. The information of La Croix is generally solid and accurate—and we have only to regret its brevity; while every page of the present edition is rendered suspicious by the editor's want of common knowledge. It was truly ridiculous to retain (vol. ii. p. 493) the fables of Buache concerning a great western sea in North America, after they had been exploded by the discoveries of Cook, Vancouver, and Hearne. But we need not further enlarge on a book so shamefully disgraceful to the progress of science, to the editor, and even to the booksellers, whose want of judgement has induced them to publish such a scandalous imposition.

ART. IX.—*Geschichte der Kriegskunst, &c.* Göttingen.

History of the Art of War, from the first Use of Gunpowder to the End of the Eighteenth Century. By J. G. Hoyer. 2 Vols. 8vo.

THOUGH this appears as a separate publication, it is in reality the second section of the History of Mathematical Sciences, inserted in a valuable work, entitled, 'The History of the Arts and Sciences, from the Revival of Letters to the End of the 18th Century,' by a Literary Society.

M. Hoyer, to whom this part of the subject was intrusted, divides the history into seven periods. The first extends from the time of the earliest use of fire-arms to the end of the campaign of Charles VIII. in Italy; that is, from the beginning of the fourteenth to about the end of the fifteenth century. The second from this last æra to the commencement of the wars in the Low Countries, about the middle of the sixteenth century—a period which includes the wars of the French, Spaniards, and Germans, in Italy. The third period reaches from the middle of the sixteenth to the beginning of the seventeenth century, during the war in the Low Countries. The fourth includes the thirty-years' war, and extends to the middle of the seventeenth century. The fifth, the French wars in the Low Countries, reaching to the middle of the eighteenth century. The sixth, the three wars in Silesia; and the seventh, the war occasioned by the French revolution.

In each æra the author traces the state of the art in its different

Digitized by Google

branches, as infantry, cavalry, fortification, &c. The sixth and seventh periods are detailed with the greatest care and precision.

We may perhaps be allowed to remark, that the origin of topographical charts, assigned by the author, is too recent. He supposes them to have been first employed in the seven-years' war. It is certain that the chart of Saxony, Brandenburg, Silesia, and Bohemia, constructed by Petri, appeared at this period; but, previous to it, there were topographical charts of the frontier of Austria, of Hungary, of Swabia, of the two Rhines, and of Lorraine. M. Hoyer should have spoken only of the former publication, for the latter were preserved, as important secrets, with great care.

We may at this time mention also a slight error, which may be rectified in a future edition. It relates to the horse-artillery in Russia. This artillery was first formed in 1796, with the consent of Catharine, by general Melissino. It was first tried in the spring of 1796, with four companies, commanded by prince Radzevil, under the more immediate authority of captains Buckmeyer, Tutschkoff, and Bogdanoff. Though the attempt succeeded very well, yet the horse artillery was neglected; and in the Russian armies in Holland, Italy, and Switzerland, there were no light field-pieces of this kind. It was only in 1799 that the emperor Paul thought of re-establishing it.

ART. X.—*Handbuch der theoretischen und practischen Chemie, &c.* Iena.

A Manual of theoretical and practical Chemistry. By J. F. A. Gœtling. 3 Vols. 8vo.

WE shall confine our remarks to the third volume, since we have already announced the publication of the two former, and they do not, on examination, furnish any observation of importance. The present volume is exclusively pharmaceutical; but the arrangement is rather practical than scientific. Without however transcribing long recipes for making essences, tinctures, electuaries, pills, powders, ointments, &c. the author explains the principles, according to which they should be made; and by these the value of the formulæ in different Dispensatories may be appreciated.

After describing, in the introduction, the utensils of pharmacy, the collection, and the form of medicines, the author divides his work into seven sections. In the first he treats of salts and their decompositions, including under the term salts the alkaline,

Digitized by Google

metallic, and earthy; adding, in this, as in every other section, a list of the best works on the subject. The second section treats of the vegetable and animal productions, with their changes and combinations, subjoining the pharmaceutical treatment. In the third section he speaks of the three kinds of fermentation; and, under the title of spirituous fermentation, he discourses upon æthers, artificial naphthas, &c. The fourth section comprises the products obtained by means of fire from different vegetable, animal, and mineral bodies, as the empyreumatic acids, the acid of amber, pot-ash, and the empyreumatic oils. The fifth section contains the metals, and their different degrees of oxidation. The sixth, sulphur, with its different forms and combinations, as the balsam of sulphur, liver of sulphur, sulphurated metals, &c.; and the seventh, water, and mineral waters, with their artificial preparation.

On the whole, this volume is rather an abstract of the chemical work, than strictly pharmaceutical. But, while chemistry is now cultivated with so much care, why is not its application to pharmacy more noticed, and the nature of the pharmaceutical operations more studiously developed? In no English work within our knowledge is the chemical nature of corrosive sublimate properly explained; and we should seek in vain in every Dispensatory within our reach—we believe, in every one hitherto published—for the chemical distinction between the sulphur auratum antimonii and the kermes mineral.

Digitized by Google

RETROSPECT

OF

FOREIGN LITERATURE.

FRANCE.

Tableau de l'Agriculture Toscane, &c. View of the Tuscan Agriculture. By J. L. Simonde of Geneva. 8vo. Geneva.—While agriculture is so fashionable and so interesting an amusement, the speculative farmer may perhaps choose to extend his views to the practice of other countries. The present work contains many novelties; and the various methods proposed have been repeated by the author. He explains the different husbandry employed on the plains, the hills, and the mountains; the modes of fertilising by watering, fallowing, the plantation of trees, manures, &c.; adding the Tuscan method of preserving wheat. M. Simonde treats also of the clearing of the hills, the plantations of olive-trees, of vines, orange-trees, &c. The same observations are applied to the mountains; and the management of chesnut-trees, with the state of the manufactures established in the defiles of the mountains, is explained at length. In each division a chapter is allotted to the culture of gardens, to the difference of climate, and of the condition of the peasants. The work concludes with a comparative table of the money, weights, and measures, of Tuscany.

Traité théorique et pratique sur la Culture de la Vigne, &c. Theoretical and practical Treatise on the Culture of the Vine, with the Art of making Wine, Brandy, Spirit of Wine, Vinegar, &c. By Citizens Chaptal, Rozier, Parmentier, and Dussieux. 2 Vols. 8vo. with 21 Plates. Paris.—This is a most valuable and important work, and would merit a much more extensive consideration, were the subject of more general consequence, at least of more consequence to this kingdom. It is an excellent companion to M. Chaptal's Treatise on the Method of making Wine, and, indeed, includes the more valuable parts of that tract. The plates represent the different species of vine, the machines and instruments employed in making wine, brandy, &c.

Digitized by Google

Traité de la Physique Végétale des Bois, &c. Physico-vegetal Treatise on Forests, and on the principal Operations relating to them, &c. By Cn. Goube, Warden of the Forests. 8*vo.* Paris.—This work appears with the approbation of the ministers of the forests, and is a theoretical as well as a practical treatise on every thing relating to the subject proposed, which is, in general, detailed with great precision and judgement. The first part contains the results of the inquiries and observations made on the best methods of replanting the forests, and the improvement of the remaining plants, or those which may be produced. The second part contains details of the most advantageous methods of management before the sales, during the felling of the wood, or subsequent to this period.

Traité ou Manuel Vétérinaire des Plantes, &c. Veterinary Manual of Plants fit to be used as Food or Medicine for domestic Animals. 3 *Vols.* 8*vo.*—The manual before us is arranged in the alphabetic order of the names of the plants, with the addition of the Linnæan and common names. Those are next particularly mentioned which are adapted for horses, cows, goats, &c, or are employed in veterinary medicine; together with the principal insects which destroy plants. The first volume is concluded by an alphabetic table of the French names of plants, with corresponding numbers of the Latin appellations.

The second part, which is sold separately, comprehends observations on the plants found in natural or artificial meadows; together with those employed in veterinary pharmacy. Some remarks are subjoined relative to the vegetables proper for the nourishment of birds, and those which serve as a bait for fish. A letter from MM. Contardi, Rocca, and Duchet, on bees, and a list of the plants adapted for them, concludes this part.

The third contains only two Latin dissertations of Linnæus, from the Amœnitates Academicæ, entitled, *Pan Succus, and Hospitia Insectorum Flora.*

Traité des Moyens de désinfecter l'Air, &c. Treatise on the Means of purifying infected Air, of preventing Contagion, and stopping its Progress. By J. B. Guyton de Morveau. 8*vo.*—Our author is said to have been engaged in these inquiries for twenty-five years; and when the epidemic raged in Genoa, in the year 1800, with so much violence as to carry off 400 in a day, he published an account of the use he had made of fumigations of the mineral acids to purify the air infected with the putrid effluvia; of the good opinion many learned societies entertained of this method; and of its particular success in destroying the miasmata of the hospital fever, which was the epidemic of Genoa.

Since that period he has been employed in arranging the materials of this treatise, in weighing the objections made to his

Digitized by Google

plan, and examining the effects of the remedies usually employed in this fever. He found that, independent of cleanliness and the distance of church-yards, every other method was useless. It is singular that the method of purifying the air by acid fumigations was known at Madrid, three years before the epidemic at Cadiz; but was not employed there, though it was very successful at Seville.

The treatise before us is divided into four parts, which treat of the first attempts to purify the air by the muriatic acid; of the experiments made in the Russian and English fleets; and of the method of fumigation adopted in Spain. In the first section of the third part, the author examines the effects of acid fumigations, established by the many experiments quoted in the work; the opinions offered on this subject; and the consequences to be drawn from the experiments, which are twenty-four in number. In the second section he considers the subject chemically, and treats of the principles which will assist us in choosing the means of correcting the insalubrity of the air, and checking the progress of infection; of the influence of oxygen in depriving air of contagious principles; of oxygenants, and particularly of the oxygenated muriatic acid, as agents for this purpose. He examines also whether the same means may be employed in contagions of a different nature. In the fourth part he points out the true antidotes to infection, and teaches us the manner of employing them.

On this subject we soon mean to take an opportunity of enlarging; and a foreign work, now under consideration, may furnish it. At present we shall remark, in few words, that free ventilation is the only secure method of purifying air; for this contributes to the solution of the putrid miasmata, or to their diffusion, which equally prevent them from injuring the human body. When this is impracticable, oxydating substances, for reasons too long to insist on here, are the only succedanea. Nitrous vapour disguises the smell, without meliorating the air.

Histoire politique et raisonnée du Consulat. History of the Consulate. By V. Comeiras. 8*vo.* Paris.—Whatever relates to consuls must be now the mode; and the present tract is an abstract of the Roman system, in whatever relates to the consulate. It is appropriated to the French nation, by a general view of the administration of the present first consul of France, which, of course, is all-wise and all-glorious.

Histoire critique de l'Establissement des François dans les Gaules, &c. Critical History of the Settlement of the Franks in Gaul; a postumous Work of the President Hénault, published from his original MS. 2 *Vols.* 8*vo.*—The two points which it is the object of the president to ascertain, are, first, the epoch of

Digitized by Google

the establishment; and, secondly, the manner in which it was effected.

The abbé Dubos fixes the establishment of the Franks in Gaul at three principal epochs. The first was in 351, when they mixed with the Romans established in Gaul, to whom they were tributary. The second in 445, when they possessed an independent territory in Gaul; and the third when they received its sovereignty from Justinian. These facts are admitted by the president; but the principal object of his work is to elucidate the second. The abbé Dubos went too far in opposing Boulainvilliers, who contended that the Gauls did not obtain the country by right of conquest, but by permission of the Romans. The president explains in a masterly manner the whole subject, and concludes with supporting the opinion of Montesquieu against that of the abbé.

Les Siécles Littéraires de la France, &c. Literary Annals of France; or a new historical, critical, and bibliographical Dictionary of all the French Writers, dead or living, down to the Conclusion of the 18th Century. By M. L. M. Dessessarts. 4 Vols. 8vo. Paris.—The abbé de la Porte, in his work entitled 'France Littéraire,' and M. Ersch, in his three volumes of the French Bibliography, have introduced us to all the French authors, and given a catalogue of the different editions of their works. The names were however imperfect; and our present author has in part corrected the errors, and supplied the imperfections of his predecessors. He might have omitted many writers, who are little known or deserve to be so; but it is the error of biographers to be too copious, and we have given our reasons for sometimes wishing them to be so. The authors, however, who have attained fame in science or literature, who have extended the bounds of human knowledge, are spoken of with care and taste. His opinions respecting those men whose memories are precious to every lover of literature and of their works, are those of an enlightened and impartial inquirer. It is with particular satisfaction we see how little attention he has paid to authors who have transmitted to him their own praises, rather than an account of their lives or writings. We would willingly enlarge on these volumes, if various claims did not prevent us from inserting an article of such extent as a proper examination of the dictionary before us would require. We had selected the life of M. de Guignes as a specimen, and may perhaps, on a future occasion, offer an abstract of it. At present M. Dessessarts must be contented with our general commendations.

Recherches historiques et critiques, &c. Historical and critical Inquiries on the Man with the Iron Mask, from which is derived certain Information respecting that Prisoner. Drawn from authentic Materials. By M. Roux Fazillac. 8vo.—The subject

Digitized by Google

is not yet exhausted. That famous prisoner is neither the duke of Beaufort, nor the count de Vermandois, nor the duke of Monmouth, nor the elder brother of Lewis XIV., but an Italian count, called Mathioli, minister of the duke of Mantua. The proofs of this assertion are taken from the archives of government.

Lewis XIV. wished to open a passage to Italy, on which he had views of conquest. A plan was proposed to the duke of Mantua, by Destrades his embassador at Venice, to give up the city of Casal. The negotiation was begun with the count Mathioli, the accredited agent of the duke, who went secretly to Paris, concluded the treaty with Pomponne, and was graciously entertained by Lewis, from whom he received a ring and a sum of money, with a promise of a much greater gratification on the conclusion of the treaty. But the count revealed the secret to the court of Turin, to the senate of Venice, as well as to the agents of Austria and Spain—thus frustrating the entire plan. There was not so much required to excite the resentment of Lewis; and the destruction of Mathioli was resolved on. Decoyed to Pignerol by Destrades, he was arrested there by Catinat. Such an open violation of the right of nations must have been kept an inviolable secret. St. Mars, commandant of the prison, was at Pignerol, and was the only one entrusted with it. Mathioli was put under his care, under the name of L'Estang.

The proofs must be read in the work itself. To us they do not appear perfectly conclusive. Every thing, however, which has been said of the man with the iron mask applies exactly to count Mathioli; or at least this hypothesis satisfactorily explains all the circumstances.

Conspiration Anglaise. English Conspiracy. Vol. I. 8vo. From the Press of the Republic.—A retort courteous for our demi-official publication of the intercepted letters from Egypt. The English conspiracy is introduced with much pomp; and the tendency of the intercepted letters is ostentatiously displayed. One thing we perceive has not been imitated in the copy—the originals are concealed.

Paris à la Fin du Dix-huitième Siécle, &c. 'Paris at the Conclusion of the 18th Century; or a moral and historical Sketch of the Monuments and Ruins in that Capital; of the State of Sciences, Arts, and Industry at that Epoch; and of the Manners and Follies of its Inhabitants. By J. B. Pijoulx. 8vo. Paris.—This is seemingly designed as a continuation of Mercier's famous Tableau de Paris, though, like most continuations, it is unequal in humour, but perhaps equally true. It is divided into twenty-eight chapters, which treat of artists, journals, public balls, sign-painters, &c. calculated for a momentary popularity, and aiming at no more.

Digitized by Google

Eloge Philosophique de Denis Diderot, &c. Philosophic Eulogy of Denis Diderot, by Eusebius Salverte; read before the National Institute, on the 7th Thermidor, Year VIII. 8vo. Paris.—A *philosophic* eulogy! It is well that the author has not styled it a *religious* one also; for his veneration for Diderot knows no bounds. Admiration and gratitude have contributed equally, M. Salverte tells us, to this truly sublime work; for the writings of the philosopher have been to him a fertile source of pleasure and instruction. The portraits of Voltaire, Rousseau, Montesquieu, &c. precede that of our author's idol; and an analysis of the works of Diderot follows. It may be supposed that he rests with enthusiasm on the Encyclopédie—'a work,' says he, 'which will out-live, after twenty centuries, the loss of our history, and every other work written in our language, and will inspire an esteem for our æra beyond what we ourselves can conceive.' The private life of Diderot concludes this eulogy. The style is elegant, but a little incorrect: indeed, in the passage just quoted, the author says that the Encyclopédie will out-live the loss of *all* the works written in our language—that is, out-live itself.

Œuvres Philosophiques de St. Lambert. Philosophical Works of St. Lambert. 5 *Vols.* 8vo. Paris.—This collection contains —1. An analysis of man; 2. Of woman; 3. Of reason; 4. The principles of the manners of every nation, or the universal catechism, with the commentary. These four works are comprised in the first two volumes, and the beginning of the third volume. The remainder of the 3d, with the 4th and 5th volumes, contain an historical analysis of society, or essays on the lives of Bolingbroke and Helvetius; and the Two Friends, an Iroquois tale. Those who possess the first three volumes may purchase the fourth and fifth separately.

GERMANY.

Uebersicht der Oekonomischen Pflanzenkulter, &c. A slight View of the Cultivation of Œconomical Plants. By J. G. Reyher. 8vo. Altona.—This little work is designed for the instruction of the farmer, and treats methodically of the cultivation of land, of meadows, and gardens. The indigenous trees and shrubs of Germany, the useful and the noxious plants and insects, are also pointed out; with the means of destroying the latter. The author advertises a more extensive work on rural œconomy.

Versuch einer Vollstendigen Geschichte Vorzüglicher Holzarten, &c. An Essay towards a complete History of the principal Species of Wood, in a systematic Order. By M. de Burgsdorff. 2 *Vols.* 4to. Berlin.—The author treads in the steps of our venerable countryman Evelyn, but moves with peculiar circumspection,

Digitized by Google

Indeed the vast extent of his plan will, in a great measure, account for his delays. The work is brought at this time to our notice by the conclusion of the second volume, the first part of which was published in 1787; and the first volume appeared three years before.

It is sufficient to observe, that this volume contained the history of the beech-tree; and the second that of the oak. The first part of the second volume treats, in four memoirs, of the names, the country, and the constitution of oaks; of their plantation, culture, natural and accidental properties. The second part, just published, relates to the use of the oak, and the methods of working and applying it, either to building or the arts. Each species described is accompanied with an account of its length, the marks of its goodness, its advantages, and its price in the Prussian dominions. The author next considers the use of the juice, bark, leaves, flowers, fruits, &c. of the oak. The next memoir (the second of this part) treats of the value and the use of the different sections. The extent of the work we cannot guess at. We may pronounce it instructive; but it is tedious in the extreme.

Walthers F. L. Lehrbach der Forstsphysiographie, &c. The Physiography of Forests, or the Natural History of Animals, Plants, and Minerals, which are the Objects of the Forester and the Hunter. By F. L. Walther. 8*vo.* Hadamar.—There are few works on the subject so comprehensive as this before us, which is said to be a syllabus of the author's public lectures. The first part only is contained in the present volume, viz. what relates to animals; and of these we find little more than the generic and specific characters, the author reserving the minuter details for the lectures. The definitions are clear and precise, but in the German language; and the Latin systems, with the names of the classes, orders, genera, and species, are translated also into German. The systematic table is preceded by some general and theoretical observations. M. Walther has separated the cryptogamous animals from the sixth class of Linnæus's system; and formed a particular association, which he has styled cryptorgana. It is divided into four orders, comprehending the plant-animals, the animal-plants, the intermediate beings, and the microscopic animals. A list of the principal works on the subject is subjoined.

La Cépèds Naturgeschichte. La Cépède's Natural History of Amphibia: translated from the French by J. M. Bechstein. 2 Vols. 8*vo.* Weimar.—We notice this translation only, to remark that the translator has made many additions from the works of Schneider, Schoepf, Walbaum, Edwards, and Dorndoff. The whole will be comprised in five volumes; and to the last

Digitized by Google

will be added an abridgement of the physiology of the amphibia, a new classification, and a synopsis of these animals.

Suckows G. A. Anfangsgründe, &c. Elements of the Natural History of Animals, theoretical and practical. By G. A. Suckow. 2 Vols. 8vo. Leipsic.—This is a short abridgement of natural history, which, however, contains more than from its contracted limits we might expect. The first volume comprises the natural history of animals; and the second, the two first orders of land-birds, the birds of prey, and the picæ. In another section (for this is only the first) the other birds will be described, and in another volume the insects and the worms. The new observations, which could not be inserted in the body of the work, will be added.

Gesundheits-Taschenbuch, &c. Manual of Health for the Year 1801. By a Society of Physicians at Vienna. 8vo. Vienna.—Vienna was, under the guidance of Van Swieten, De Haen, and Stoll, a respectable seminary of medicine. We are sorry to see, from a perusal of the present collection, that it can no longer merit such a title. The collection indeed relates chiefly to the hygieine—the methods of preserving health; but it is deformed by some of the most trifling fancies and erroneous doctrines that we have lately perused. Dr. Frank first gives the life of Brown, with an explanation of his system; and this is followed by an account of inoculation for the cow-pox, by Dr. de Carro. The third article is an inquiry into the causes of the great number of hectics in large cities, and particularly Vienna, with the means of curing them, by Dr. M. Schmid. The fourth, on the present dress of women, and its influence on their health, by Dr. Frank. Commentaries on the ideas of treatment of cure, by J. A. Schmid; observations on the influence of heat and cold in the preservation of health and the cure of diseases, by Dr. Werner; on the influence of smells on the human body, by Dr. Cappellini; and on the pretended preservatives, taken in spring, follow. M. Wagner communicates what he styles a fragment of a regimen for winter; and M. J. Malfatti adds some remarks on the influence of the custom of bleeding and purging. The eleventh article is a singular history of a person who had a hole in his stomach, visible externally, and who nevertheless enjoyed a good state of health; and the twelfth is on the mortality of the hospital at Vienna, by M. Frank.

System der practischen Heilkunde. A System of practical Medicine. By C. W. Hufeland. Part I. 8vo. Jena.—We have received very favorable impressions of the present work, which is intended as a syllabus to the author's lectures; and may be able to notice it more at large when a greater portion is before us. The volume before us relates to general therapeutics. The effects of remedies, and the symptoms of diseases, he professes

Digitized by Google

to deduce from the phænomena of organic life; and the deficiencies are supplied by observation and experience.

Ueber die Zweckmaässigste Einrichtung der Fild Hospitäler. On the most convenient Arrangement of Field Hospitals. By Dr. G. P. Michaëlis, late Field Physician in the Electoral Brunswick Lunenburg Service. With a Plate. 8vo. Göttingen. 1801.—We fully agree with the author, that this subject is too much neglected in the 'piping times of peace.' It should be remembered (*absit tamen*) that war may again return; and we should not be unprepared, especially in regulations so necessary and so essential. Wherever an army exists, regulations for the maintenance of the diseased and wounded should exist also, and be ready on the first beginning of hostile operations. M. Michaëlis seems to think that the practice of physic and surgery would be most conveniently divided in the military hospitals; but, in the actual conduct of such hospitals, the officers could not be properly separated.

The first part relates to the arrangement of hospitals; to the ambulatory, depôt, and chief hospitals; and to the inferior circumstances requisite in the conduct of such institutions. The second part relates to the maintenance of patients; and the third to the persons belonging to the hospitals, and to their direction. On the whole, we cannot approve of some parts of our author's advice: it may perhaps be adapted to German customs and German constitutions. They could not, without many modifications, be admitted in the English army.

Darstellung der Særen, Alkalien, Erden, und Metalle. An Explanation of Acids, Alkalis, Earths, and Metals; of their Combinations and elective Affinities. In Twelve Tables. By J. B. Trommsdorff. Folio. Erfurt.—The author published, about two years since, a more imperfect edition of the present tables, which are now corrected in many respects, but are still, we think, unaccountably incomplete. It is singular, for instance, that his tables of elective attractions, which are perhaps the best part of the work, should be confined to those in the dry way; that the triple and quadruple salts should be omitted, as well as the double affinities. He introduces the formic suberic acids, &c. but excludes that of camphor. Among the earths, not only the glucine of Vauquelin is omitted, but, more strangely, the agustine, discovered by himself. As if also weary of his labour, we find only the names of the metallic salts.

Anleitung zur Hydrodynamick. Elements of Hydrodynamics. By G. Vega. With Nine Plates. 8vo. Vienna.—Though this is of itself a distinct and complete work, it in reality forms the fourth volume of the author's Elements of Mathematics; the three first of which appeared in the years 1782, 1784, and

Digitized by Google

1788 respectively. It is sufficient, at so great a distance from the time of their publication, to observe, that the first treats of arithmetic and finite quantities; the second of geometry, of the differential and integral calculus, with their application to geometry; the third of mechanics.

In the present volume, M. de Vega explains the principles of hydrostatics, of aërostatics, hydraulics, and the motions of solid bodies in a resisting medium. The work appears to us to merit considerable commendation, and is particularly estimable for the clearness of the definitions, the spirit and precision of the analysis, and the accuracy of the calculations.

Berthold Schwartz der Pulverer-finder. Berthold Schwarts, Inventor of Gunpowder, a Historical Romance. 2 Vols. 8vo. Hamburg.—We do not notice the romances of the continent, unless we find some of peculiar interest or singular novelty. Berthold Schwartz is not very eminent in either, but possesses enough of both to induce us to allot to him a few lines. This famous monk was at first named, after his father, Constantine Angklizen; and his adventures are related in a style rich in imagery, but somewhat too poetical. The author mixes with these a philosophical view of the events, opinions, and manners of the fourteenth century, or rather has adopted the life of Berthold as their vehicle. This period, so highly praised, is stripped of its imaginary charms; and the boasted age of chivalry is described as scarcely emerging from a state of barbarity, under the dominion of ignorance and superstition. His erudition and philosophy, for the author possesses both, are conveyed in agreeable and, not unfrequently, in animated language; but the work is not concluded; for we leave Berthold, yet young, at the battle of Cressy. We have reason to think that, when the author speaks of his work as the continuation of the life of Faustus, it is rather the trick of the bookseller. It must mean that Berthold is in the same style; for, if we are not misinformed, we are indebted for the present work to the same pen from which we received the Sagen der Vorzeit, or the Traditions of past Times.

Adelstans Jovialisch-politische Reise durch Italien, &c. The Jovial and Political Travels of Adelstan in Italy, during the Campaigns of Bonaparte. 2 Vols.—Fielding called the Odyssey 'the poem of good eating;' and this may be styled 'the romance of drinking.' Adelstan had laid a wager of a thousand guineas with an English lord, that it is possible, in passing through countries where the vine is cultivated, to find every evening a new kind. The period however is not fixed. Adelstan attempts to execute this wild project; but the political events detain him so long, that he is still at Naples. The tour is designed to terminate at Cyprus.

Digitized by Google

G. Ch. Lichtenbergs Vermische Schrifften. *Miscellaneous Works of G. Ch. Lichtenberg. Published after his Death by L. C. Lichtenberg and Fr. Kries: 2 Vols.* Göttingen.—The miscellaneous works of Lichtenberg were lately published at Bareuth; but these contain the hitherto inedited pieces of this singular author. Many are unfinished; and we shall only transcribe a passage or two.

'Hypochondria is the talent of drawing from each event of our lives the greatest quantity of poison for our own use.'

'People in general lose by the combat of the flesh against the spirit;—the man of letters by the combat of the spirit against the flesh.'

'The difference between the man of the world and the man of letters consists only in a species of perception, or in the art of making a book.'

HUNGARY AND TRANSYLVANIA.

Jacobi Josephi Winterl Prolusiones ad Chemiam Sæculi 19. Introduction to the Chemistry of the Nineteenth Century. 8*vo.* Buda.—This work, we have reason to believe, is not to be purchased. We are informed that seventy copies only have been printed, and presented to different chemists. From one of these gentlemen the copy from which this account is taken is derived.

The great object of the author, who, by the way, considers the century to have begun in the year 1800, is to announce the discovery of a new earth, universally diffused, which he calls *andronia*. Thus, barytes is a compound of lead and andronia; steel is iron saturated with andronia; molybdæna of copper, kali of lime, and tin of tungsten, with the same earth respectively. Tin however is supposed to contain a third substance hitherto unknown. On this subject we can offer no opinion, because the author gives no leading experiments to elucidate the discovery, but appears anxious only to raise a system on it. We must therefore wait till he choose to explain himself more fully.

Ambrosii Simigiani Historia Rerum Hungaricarum et Transylvanicarum, &c. Ambrose Simigianus's History of Hungary and Transylvania, from the Year 1490 to 1606, in Four Books, with Notes. Edited by Jos. C. Elder. Book I. 4*to.* Hermanstadt.—The name of the author, stript of its Latin form, is Ambrose Snornogyi: he was the notary of count de Snolnoz, and obliged, by the entry of the imperial troops, to quit his retreat at Dès, and retire to Bistritz, where he employed himself on the present work. He has not, in any part of the ancient history, quoted his authorities, so that we cannot appreciate the value of his information. With respect to the more recent events in Transylvania, he was an eye-witness, and often actively engaged in them. Much of the ancient history we find copied from Jovius:

Digitized by Google

and we must remember that the author was the decided enemy of the Germans, or rather of the Austrians, whom he considered as the oppressors of his country.

M. Eder has accompanied each chapter with notes and observations, in which he has endeavoured to supply the omissions or imperfections of Snornogyi; so that the present work will be a valuable history of Transylvania, from the year 1527.

These additions have been printed faithfully from the originals; even the archives, and the numbers in which they occur, have been pointed out. The editor's religious impartiality is accurately kept up. It is remarked with justice, and he proves, that, from the year 1527, the race styled the *Saxon*, in Transylvania, has always been the active partisans of the house of Austria. The present volume extends only to 1541, and will not be very interesting to modern readers.

SWITZERLAND.

Salomon Gessners Briefwechsel mit seinem Sohn. The Correspondence of S. Gesner with his Son. 8vo. Berne.—We insert this solitary volume, almost the only publication of Switzerland in a period of no little extent—if we except political ones. Such is the unfortunate state of this once literary country! such the consequences of French protection! The letters before us relate chiefly to the fine arts, and were written from the year 1784 to 1788, while his son, a distinguished artist, resided at Rome.

The editor, Gessner's second son, remarks that this correspondence was not designed for public view, and should be considered only as the conversation of a father with a son on the fine arts, and the means of cultivating them. The letters have not been corrected; they are characteristic of the author; and furnish a portrait from his own hands.

S. Gessner has left a large collection of designs and studies from nature, in a greater or less degree of perfection, which will be published by his son.

HOLLAND.

A. Ypey Introductio in Materiam Medicam. Introduction to the Materia Medica. 8vo. Leiden.—Our author has been less anxious to display his erudition than to give solid information. Though confined, in the title, to the Materia Medica, he mixes pathological observations and remarks, founded on practical experience. The description of the plants used in medicine is very exact, though, in this respect, he falls short of the minute accuracy of Bergius in one view, and of Murray in another; yet, on the whole, mistakes are guarded against with sufficient care. Specifics are considered with great attention;

Digitized by Google

and the directions for their use are given with a scrupulous caution. Why have not we a work of real merit on this subject in our own language?

Gerardi Sandifort Tabulæ Anatomicæ. Anatomical Tables. Large Folio. Leiden.—The anatomical labours of the Sandiforts are well known, and this is not an unworthy scion from a respectable stock. The present collection will contain probably the morbid changes in the state of the body; and the two plates, of which the present number consists, represent an aneurysm of the internal iliac artery, which produced symptoms of nervous sciatica. The drawings, we perceive, are by the author; and the engravings are very neatly executed. No time is fixed for the appearance of the succeeding numbers.

C. Plinii Cæcilii secundi Epistolarum Libri decem. Pliny's Epistles, with Notes. By G. E. Gierig. Vol. I. Amsterdam.—Pliny's Epistles are not with us a very favourite work; and perhaps more labour has been bestowed on them than was necessary. The edition of Gesner was sufficiently satisfactory in every respect. Having, however, looked over the present volume, we must admit its superiority to Gesner's edition, as well as to that of Korte, which preceded it. The difficult passages are better explained, and the characters introduced more satisfactorily developed. The editor has endeavoured to ascertain with precision the sense of his author, and pointed out his defects as well as his beauties. He has added various philological observations, and the contents of those letters which were not so miscellaneous as to prohibit an abstract.

The dissertation prefixed to this volume, De Plinii Epistolis, is designed to show the influence of the classical authors on the moral characters of youth. The editor published an essay of this kind about two years since, on 'the Life, the moral Character and Literary Merit of the Younger Pliny,' in which he has attempted to prove, though we think with little success, that these letters contain a method, not difficult in practice, of rendering the manners of society more perfect and correct. The dissertation prefixed to the present volume is followed by a chronological view of the life of Pliny, from Mason; and the prolegomena are concluded by a literary abstract of the manuscripts and editions quoted in the notes. The present volume contains the first five books, and is accompanied by a plate of the model of Pliny's villa, drawn by Krubsacius, an architect at Dresden.

Digitized by Google

ITALY.

Ricerche sulle Cause, et sugli Effetti del Vajulo, &c. Inquiries into the Causes and Effects of the Small-Pox of Cows, known by the Name of the Cow-Pox, by Dr. Jenner: Accompanied with Notes, and the Relation of the Small-Pox observed among the Cows of Lombardy. By Dr. Luigi Careno. 12*mo.* Pavia.—We had determined to pass, unnoticed, the various publications on the cow-pox on the continent, as it was the same tale repeated, *ad fastidium usque*; yet we have altered our resolution with respect to this work, that we might extend the knowledge of a striking anomaly, or give occasion to the explanation of some error.

Dr. Careno of Vienna published some time since a Latin translation of the works of Dr. Jenner and Dr. Pearson; and the present volume is an Italian version of the same tracts. To this is added an account of a variolic eruption often observed on the udders of cows in Lombardy. It appears that the cows of Italy are exposed to this disease but once in their lives; that they even communicate it to other cows, who have not been before affected with it, but *not* to children who have *not* had the small-pox. It cannot therefore be employed for the inoculation of the vaccine.

Della Economia Fisica degli Antichi nel costruire le Città. On the Physical Œconomy of the Ancients in the Structure of their Cities. By Gaëtano of Angora. 8*vo.*—The present work is little known beyond the confines of Italy, and we cannot pay it the attention it merits; for the author renders an abstruse subject interesting; and, from the learning displayed in the illustrations, it becomes also instructive.

Our author considers, first, the general motives for the establishment of cities, and, when the population has become too numerous, the conduct of those who guide the emigrants or the colonists. These are the subjects of the introduction, which are expanded in the work itself. In the first chapter he treats of the investigation of springs and rivers, and of attempts to render sea-water potable. Contrary to the opinion of Vitruvius, he maintains that the discovery of springs has contributed more to social life than that of fire. This he proves by the existence of some hordes of savages who are not yet acquainted with fire. The indispensable necessity of water has, he thinks, occasioned many quarrels, and may have frequently been the origin of war. The denominations of many cities

Digitized by Google

contribute to support his hypothesis. The means of discovering springs is the subject of the rest of the chapter; and the second relates to the quality of the air, the temperature of the climate, and the winds. For the characters of a salubrious climate, the author refers to Pliny. The third, fourth, and fifth chapters are more interesting, as they combine modern discoveries with the ancient doctrines drawn from Pliny and Vitruvius. They relate to the causes of the alteration of climates, the infection of the atmosphere, and the means of remedying it, as well as of precautions to be observed in the choice of soil.

Roads, ports, walks, and public places, furnish numerous observations for the seventh chapter. The roads were always directed towards the cardinal points; and the ports were well chosen, because, in the coasting navigation of the ancients, every bay and its advantages were known. Brundusium, Carthage, and Alexandria, were constructed by the ancients; and light-houses were generally established. The construction of piers, as an artificial security, followed. At Ostia and Civita Vecchia we find some ancient remains of this kind. The public places and markets were usually covered, surrounded by galleries also covered. The stations or asylums for the poor were furnished with benches, couches, fire-places, and other conveniences. They were in time frequented by others also, and then were styled *scolæ*, in which warm liquors were sold, as in the thermopolia, an establishment not unlike our coffee houses. These scolæ soon gave place to hospitals, which were built near the temples, and became sacred asylums. The sick, who recovered, left accounts of their diseases and remedies, from which tablets our author supposes that Pliny and Hippocrates derived a great share of their medical knowledge.

The two last chapters treat of the interior distribution of the houses, the furniture, &c. with the methods of keeping the cities clean. The ancients generally inhabited the ground floors, not to be obliged to mount the stair-cases, which were often uncovered, and to be near the galleries and entrances. The houses were separate, so as to be better ventilated, and in less danger of fire. Our author thinks that the ancients knew the property of pointed rods to guard against the effects of thunder. We shall pass over minuter arrangements, to speak of other methods of keeping the streets clean. The streets were raised like our causeways, with ditches on each side to carry off impurities; and religion came in aid of cleanliness, by rendering the person impure who had touched a dead body or any thing putrid. The same impressions led them to remove from the city every manufacture which could cause impurities, or produce disagreeable

Digitized by Google

miasmata, as tanners, curriers, &c. The places of interment were hills or distant caverns; and the law of the twelve tables, 'ne quis hominem in urbe sepeliret, neve ureret,' was extended by Adrian through every Roman city, with the exception only of famous men, of vestals, and emperors.

Dionis Cassii Historiarum Romanarum Fragmenta, cum novis earundem Lectionibus. A Jacobo Morellio, nunc primum edita. Bassano.—The eighty books of Dio Cassius's Roman History have been greatly corrupted and mutilated by the copyists, who have sometimes omitted details that they thought too long, sometimes whole passages which appeared to them superfluous and uninteresting. The best editions, therefore, which are those of Robert Stephanus and Reimarus, who had collated the MSS. in the Vatican and Florence libraries, are still defective and imperfect in a great degree. The library of Venice, however, contained a copy, whose merit had escaped even Bongiovani and Zanetti; for they only mention its title in their index of the MSS. of the Venetian library.

It was reserved for the learned librarian Morelli to enrich ancient literature with this new discovery. Having learned that M. J. A. Penzel was preparing in Germany a new edition of Dio Cassius, to which these fragments would be a valuable supplement, he inserted a description of the manuscript, and an account of its value in the preface.

The manuscript appears to be of the eleventh century, and begins towards the middle of the forty-fourth book, at the thirty-sixth line of the forty-fourth page of Reimarus, and finishes with the sixtieth book, p. 965, line 93. It would render the Florentine edition complete, which leaves off at the end of the fiftieth book, as well as that of the Vatican, which concludes at the fifty-fourth. It contains many various readings hitherto unknown; but its principal merit consists in the fragments which supply the deficiencies in the fifty-fifth book, one of the most imperfect of the whole. These supply the hiatus in the edition of Reimarus.

The first fragment treats of the temple of Mars raised by Augustus, of the games and spectacles given at Rome and Naples, and of the other events of the year 752, A. U. C. The second relates chiefly to the enterprises of D. Ænobarbus against the Marcomanni and other nations on the Rhine, to the changes in the government of Armenia, to the deaths of Caius and Lucius, the adopted sons of Augustus, and to the other events of the years 754 and 5. Morelli has given a Latin version of these two fragments, with some notes, which display considerable erudition.

Digitized by Google

Analecta Critica in Anthologiam Græcam, cum Supplemento Epigrammatum maximam Partem ineditorum, collegit J. G. Huschke. 8*vo.* Jena.—M. Jacobs, to whom we are indebted for new editions of Brunck's Analecta, with commentaries and various elucidations of different kinds, has communicated to the editor a collection of pleasing Greek epigrams, hitherto inedited, with several published subsequent to Brunck's Analects and critical remarks. The work commences by critical analects, in which the author again examines some epigrams commented on by others, proposes some new readings, with philosophical, critical, and historical observations.

The new collection commences at page 190, and the greater number is satirical. Some have been preserved entire: of others there are fragments only. The volume concludes with a double table—1. of the inedited epigrams and other pieces; 2. of authors commented on, of words, and things.

Del Luogo natale di Virgilio, &c. Of the Birth-place of Virgil, a Memoir of L. Casali. 4*to.* Mantua.—The ancients have uniformly said that Virgil was born at Andes; for this place the marquis Maffei has sought in the Veronese, in the environs of Cavriana and Volta. The historian Visi supposed it to be at Rivalta, seven leagues from Mantua. The present author endeavours to show that each is in an error, and that the ancient Andes is the modern Pietole. This is not a new opinion; but the sentiments of the authors first mentioned had so much weight, as to occasion some hesitation in the minds of Italian antiquaries, which signor Caseli has endeavoured to remove, not altogether without success.

Parnasso degl' Italiani viventi, &c. The Parnassus of living Italian Poets. 6 *Vols.* 8*vo.*—This series has been continued after different intervals, and is, in general, respectable from the choice of the authors, and the merit of the selections. We cannot particularise every bard who adorns this bouquet, but shall enumerate a few of the most eminent, and the latest.

The first three volumes contain the poems of Lorenzo Pignotti, the Italian La Fontaine, whose fables and other poems have passed through from eighteen to twenty editions, in Italy. Of these volumes, the first comprises his pieces which are already known, together with six others which had never before made their appearance. The second comprehends some additional fables, a beautiful ode, and an imitation of a novel of Voltaire's, entitled The Three Manners. In the third, the editor has collected all the other poems of Pignotti. Among the latter, we have particularly noticed a beautiful poem, entitled La Tomba di Shakspeare, The Tomb of Shakspeare, and a good imitation of the second epistle of the second book of Horace.

The poems of Savioli were at first received with a general en-

Digitized by Google

thusiasm, which by degrees, however, diminished, when it was discovered that they were artificial rather than sentimental, and displayed a deeper knowledge of mythology than genuine fervor of poetic genius. Savioli had his imitators, who shared the same fate; and, though numerous, they were soon forgotten. As usual, the critics were in the opposite extreme; and Savioli was considered as a very moderate poet, without reflecting that his odes were possessed of very considerable merit: but the unpardonable sin was, that, in his songs of love, he did not seem to feel like Petrarc. The editor of the Parnassus has not caught the general disgust; but has selected, in one of these volumes, many of his best productions.

We find, in the fourth volume, sixteen Anacreontic odes, and one hundred sonnets of Rossi. The latter are too numerous to be uniformly good; and, in reality, we find few, if any of them, above mediocrity.

Rossi's Scherze.

'Nella stagion gradita
Che il frutto al fior succede,
Dolce desio l'invita,
E là rivoglie il piede.
Ma quando ella s'appressa
A quella pianta stessa,
Attonita rimira,
Che carca è sol di fronde,
E piange, e se n'adira:
E il giardinier risponde:
Bramavi i frutti, o Dori?
Perche cogliesti i fiori?'

This edition is very correct, well printed, and adorned with some beautiful plates. The editor is Dr. Rosini, of Padua, who declares in his advertisement that he will print only what the different poets please to communicate, or what they allow him to select from their works.

Epigrammi morali di Giuseppe Maria Pagnani, Carmelitano. Moral Epigrams of Joseph Maria Pagnani, a Carmelite. 8vo. Parma.—Our author is little known beyond Italy, where he ranks with literary characters of the first eminence. Yet perhaps his admirers judge of him with some partiality, when they style him 'a very great philologist;' a 'famous teacher of belles lettres;' a 'copious orator;' an 'elegant poet,' &c. We have always considered him as a happy translator, rather than a poet of originality and genius: and he seems to have succeeded best in his translations from the Greek. With a flowery style and an easy versification, he often wants that warmth of sentiment which inspires the poet and entrances the reader. We might bring some instances from the present collection, but shall prefer transcribing two epigrams, which are perhaps among the best:

'Tutti fanni i grammatici
Il verbo "amare" attivo;
Ma que' che s' inamorano
Lo trovano passivo.'

Digitized by Google

'Bindo, se un crin perdesse a ogni bugia,
Calva la testa in men d'un anno avria.'

The author promises, in his preface, a translation of Greek epigrams, in which we have little doubt of his success.

Saggio di Versi estemporanei d'Amarilli Etrusca.
Odi tre di Teresa Bandettini tra gli Arcadi Amarilli Etrusca.
A Collection of extemporaneous Verses of Amaryllis of Tuscany. 8*vo.* Pisa.

Three Odes of Teresa Bandettini, &c. 4*to.* Lucca.—Signora Bandettini is distinguished among the improvisatori of Italy, by the originality of her genius, the richness of her imagination, and an expression equally just and agreeable. Proofs of each quality occur in the two collections before us.

The first contains six improvisi, which owe their origin to friendship. They are entitled—1. The Flight of Clelia; 2. The Wars of the Giants; 3. The Death of Hercules; 4. The Meeting of Petrarc and Laura in the Church; 5. The Lamentation of Clizia; and 6. Pygmalion. The three first pieces are in *ottave rime*, the others in anacreontics. The fourth is full of those tender images which might, without disadvantage, place it beside those of Rossi.

The odes in the second collection are on the naval victory of Nelson in Egypt; on the victories of Souworof in Italy; and on those of the archduke Charles. The first of these works is printed by Bondoni with all his usual brilliancy and elegance.

RUSSIA.

Historisch-Statisches Gemælde des Russischen Reichs, &c. An Historical and Statistical View of the Empire of Russia, at the End of the Eighteenth Century. By H. Storch. 4 *Vols.* 8*vo.* Petersburg.—This work differs both from Mr. Tooke's and M. Georgi's, though it approaches more nearly to the former than the latter work. M. Georgi confines himself to a geographical and philosophical description of the Russian empire. Our present author treats exclusively of the condition of the inhabitants, both as it regards statistics and the interior administration.

In the first two volumes, the author points out the civil state of the inhabitants of Russia; and in the third he traces the progress of Russian industry. The introduction to this volume describes the arts as passing successively from Greece to Novogorod and Kiew, which were destroyed by the Mongols, and again re-established by Ivan I and II, and Alexis Michaelowitz. The author then gives a view of all the manufactures furnished by Russia in 1674, adding what had been done by Peter the Great, Catharine II, and Paul I.

What relates to the present state of industry in the Russian empire is divided into three sections. The first relates to the

Digitized by Google

particular occupations of the inhabitants of the country. These are not agricultural only, but the manufacture of corn, oil, and sawing-mills, the preparation of tar, pot-ash, nitre, soap, leather, caviare, and isinglass. To these are added the means of encouraging and extending the different branches of national industry.

In the second section he speaks of trades, and the measures taken by Catharine to raise their importance, in giving them stability and independence. He estimates those who live by trade to be about 350,000 in the whole empire. This section concludes with some considerations on the want of labourers in Russia, particularly in the working of metals.

The third section is devoted to manufactures of different kinds, which are classed under forty-five heads. In the second part of this section our author examines the following questions: Whether it be advantageous to Russia to have manufactures? What branches should have the preference? and, What means of encouragement should the government employ?

The fourth volume contains a particular account of the commerce of Russia, from the remotest æra to the time of Peter the Great. The periods are, 1. From the foundation of the empire to the establishment of the first board of commerce; 2. From that time to the re-establishment of the route of commerce across the Black Sea, in 1553, by English navigators; 3. To the acquisition of the shores of the Baltic, in 1703. The two parts which form the history of this æra contain the history of the Russian commerce on the White Sea, the Baltic, the Caspian, and the Euxine; the establishment of the two commercial cities Wologda and Jaroslow; the discovery and conquest of Siberia; the origin of the commerce with China; and the period of the construction of vessels at Woronesch and at Archangel.

The volume is concluded by a statistical view of the commerce of Russia during the second part of the seventeenth century, under the reign of Alexis Michaelowitz. We may, of course, expect the continuation; but we have reason to apprehend that it is not very near. We find the last volume, which is intended for a supplement, will contain an account of the changes that have occurred during the impression, the observations collected by the author, a descriptive catalogue of all the works, charts, ukases, &c. employed; with a chronological table of important events. As M. Georgi's work is not common, this volume is introduced by a geographical abstract of the empire of Russia, and some observations on the orthography of Russian names.

There is, we find, a French translation printed at Basle, said to be a very correct one. This is illustrated by a chart of the whole Russian empire, and another of European Russia.

J. Reinigg's Historische Topographische Beschreibung des Kaukasus. A Historical and Topographical Description of Caucasus,

Digitized by Google

by J. Reinigg. Collected from his Manuscripts, by E. Schrœder. 2 Vols. 8vo. With Plates and Charts. Petersburg.—Caucasus, so celebrated in ancient and modern geography, is one of the primitive mountains of the old continent, which stretches its branches through Asia, and whose population, unlike other mountains, is so numerous, that it is supposed to furnish 600,000 men capable of bearing arms. The Caucasean nations differ in manners and language, but resemble each other in bravery, independence, contempt of civilisation, and activity. Like the Arabs of the Desert, their time is divided between war and inactivity; nor would the last be interrupted, but for the desire of plunder. From the general resemblance in disposition, they might be taken for the same race; but their features and language differ, so that they must certainly be different tribes, whose origin is lost in the remotest antiquity.

The author visited these people five different times. Possessed of a spirit of observation, and acquainted with many of their dialects, he had an opportunity of collecting much new information. He assumed also the appearance of a Mahometan, and practised physic—two circumstances which procured him access to the principal people, and removed all restraint.

On his return to Petersburg, where he enjoyed the office of counsellor of state, and perpetual secretary of the Imperial College of Medicine, he employed his leisure hours in collecting and arranging his materials, and completing his description of Caucasus and its inhabitants—the result of his numerous visits. Death however checked his labour; but his papers passed into the hands of M. Schrœder, who has published them with great care, and enriched them with his own observations and some additions.

The work contains much curious information respecting the topography of Caucasus, the government, manners, languages, and religion of its inhabitants. There are few remarks on natural history; not that the author was inattentive to the subject; but we are informed, in the introduction to the second volume, that this part of the manuscript could not be found.

Another manuscript, which has been preserved by the successors of the author, relates to the opinion, that we may yet discover in the Crimea, and along the shores of the Euxine, the descendents of the ancient Goths, whose language has some analogy with the Low Saxon or German. We may find them very certainly in Saxony, Germany, and almost every part of Europe; but the dissertation is curious, and it occurs in the second volume, with the life of M. Reinigg, compiled by Gerstenberg.

The map of Caucasus is drawn by the author, and corrected by himself and lieutenant-colonel Thorzon. A copy of this, with one of the manuscripts, was presented to prince Potemkin, in the possession of whose descendents it may still remain: the original

Digitized by Google

was communicated to the editors by lieutenant-colonel Thorzon. We may be tempted, on a future occasion, to give a fuller account of this work; but we wish to see it in the English language.

SWEDEN.

Kongl Vetenskaps Academicus nya Hadlingar, &c. New Memoirs of the Academy of Sciences at Stokholm. Vol. XX. Of the Year 1799. 4to. Stokholm.—We have said, that we must resign every pretension to an extensive account of the memoirs of foreign academies, if we except only those of France. We do it however from necessity only, and with regret—a regret which we feel more acutely on turning over this interesting volume. The only consolation which we feel is, that some of the more important memoirs will occur to us in other collections.

Our readers may recollect—for the labours of this respectable society are not new in our annals—that the annual volume is divided into four parts, each, from its period, styled *trimestre*. The first contains seven memoirs. 1. On the determination of currents at sea, or a method of finding, while under sail, at three different periods and in three different places, the direction of a current by a signal from the shore. 2. Observations on M. Plouquet's method of determining, from the appearance of the lungs, whether a child has breathed. 3. A description of a pellicule (*pterygium*) attached to the eye from the birth, by J. G. Pipping. 4. Two cases produced by rheumatic affections, fatal in their consequences, by C. M. Blom. 5. Observations on the tourmalin, by A. Modeer. 6. A description of some new species of Swedish insects, by J. Paykul. One of these is the *dysticus*, of which the author has described twenty-seven species, unknown to Linnæus in his Fauna Suecica. He has promised to publish the continuation of his discoveries in these memoirs. 7. On the effects which manual labour can produce, applied to machines moved with handles, by J. E. Norberg.

The second trimestre contains eight memoirs. 1. Experiments on living queen bees, by G. Adlermark. 2. A description of a new species of nutmeg from Ceylon and Java, by Thunberg. Myristica glomerata, foliis oblongis acuminatis subtus tomentosis, floribus masculis, glomerato-capitatis. 3. Lampris, a new species of fish described by A. J. Retzius, unknown to Linnæus and Block, but described by Pennant, Sibrand, Stroem, Duhamel, Brunnich, and La Cépède. Brunnich calls it *Zeus guttatus*, and classes it among the *abdominales*—'Os edentulum; maxillis mediis; linguâ carnosâ latâ; membranâ branchiostegâ radiis sex; foramen longum pone pinnas pectorales; sternum osseum.' 4. Longitudes and latitudes of different places in Sweden, determined by astronomical and chronometrical observations, by N. G. Schulten. 5. Continuation of the description of new insects, by J. Paykul. 6. Extracts from a

Digitized by Google

meteorological journal, kept at Umea, in 1798, by D. E. Naezen. 7. A description of some polypi of the lungs, by E. Acharius. 8. Some new species of insects, described from his own collection, by S. J. Ljungh; viz. scarabæus marmon, crysomela bivittata, cicindela varians, papilio brigitta.

The third trimestre contains comparative tables of births and deaths which occurred in Sweden and Finland from 1771 to 1795, by H. Nicander. 2. A species of aphrodita, described by Modeer. 3. A method of finding curves, by means of analytic expressions of their tangents, No. I. 4. Botanical observations, and a description of a *sperguła stricta*, a Swedish plant hitherto unknown, by Olof Swartz, accompanied with a plate.

The fourth contains a continuation of the tables of mortality; from which it appears that the population of Sweden increased, in this period, 15 in every 100. 2. A description of some improvements, applicable to vessels employed in distilling water, by J. E. Norberg. 3. Relation of a journey, undertaken at the expense of the academy of Pello, to examine whether the measure of a degree of the meridian, taken in 1739 by Maupertuis and other French philosophers, was exact, by J. Svanberg. The result is not very favorable to their predecessors' accuracy. 4. Extracts of astronomical observations, made in the observatory of Stokholm in 1799, by J. Svanberg. 5. Extract of meteorological observations made at Upsal during the year 1799, by D. E. Holmquist. The volume terminates, as usual, by lists of works and natural objects presented to the society.

Forsoek om Skaldekonsten, &c. An Essay on the Art of Poetry, in four Cantos; followed by Remarks on the Swedish Versification. By the Count de Gyllenborg. Stokholm.—Our author is the patriarch of Swedish versification. Half a century is elapsed since the count and Creutz began to enrich Sweden with poetical compositions, which could vie with those of other polished nations. Such are the superiority and influence of these bards, that their works are still read as models of good style in that language. Gyllenborg has exercised his talents in many different lines. In the epic, in tragedy, and descriptive poetry, he has not attained the highest rank—*nervi deficiunt animique:* the spirit which should support the whole seems soon to flag. But in the lighter walks, where taste and good sense are chiefly requisite, he is excellent. His didactic satires, his philosophical odes, and his fables, merit our highest commendations.

The present poem is of this superior kind. The first canto treats of the general rules of poetry; the second and third of the different kinds, and their progress in different countries. In the fourth, he assigns to reason, to taste, and genius, their different offices. It may be observed, that he modestly calls his work an *Essay* on the Art of Poetry.

Digitized by Google

The count often imitates the grave good sense of Boileau, and the concise style of Pope, whom he calls the Homer of philosophy. But his own theory will not satisfy the philosopher. The definitions and classification proposed in the preface are vague and arbitrary.

The remarks on versification form the subject of a pamphlet, owing to a particular quarrel, which the author should not have raised into such importance as to give it a place in the art of poetry.

Stokholm. 2 *Volumes.* 8*vo.* Stokholm.—Not long since a description of the city of Copenhagen was published by professor Nyrup; and, perhaps from the rivalship formerly noticed, the present author (M. Elers) now presents us with an account of the capital of Sweden. For this purpose he has united whatever the archives of the kingdom, public and private collections, could furnish; and though something may be deficient in historical accuracy and elegance of style, yet the work is amply rich in materials for the future historian.

Enough is already known of the situation and topography of Stokholm, the subject of the introduction. We shall speak rather of our author's account of the city and the castle.

The founder of the capital of Sweden is unknown. The æra is from about 1250 to 1260; and the habitations seem to have been first occupied under K. Knut, the son of Eric the Holy. About seventy years afterwards Birger Jarl introduced agriculture into Sweden, surrounded the city with walls, and built the castle. In the second and third chapters we find the progressive improvements described; but it was only in the reign of Gustavus I. that wooden buildings were forbidden, and various laws enacted for the security and ornament of the city. The great church was erected in 1160, by Birger Jarl, and it contained formerly twenty-three altars and other antiquities. In 1525 the first mass was celebrated in the Swedish language. The toleration was established in 1741, and in 1782 it was extended to the Jews. The marriage of a Jew with a Christian woman was at the same time allowed.

The fourth and fifth chapters contain an account of the establishment of markets, public places, fountains, bridges, churches, &c.

The sixth chapter offers a description of the statues erected in honour of the kings of Sweden. A great part of this would, to the English reader, be uninteresting; but we shall add a short account of that elevated to the honour of Gustavus III., which was completed in August 1799. It is situated on the shore, on the spot where the king landed after the war against the Russians; and it will be placed on a pedestal of porphyry. The height is eleven feet. The king is represented standing, holding in his right hand a branch of olive, and resting his left on the rudder of a ship.

In the seventh and eighth chapters the author speaks of some

public establishments and buildings. In the ninth, of the extent of the city, and its population, which is estimated at 80,000. The number of houses is classed at 6000, which gives more than ten persons to each house; but we believe the houses, like those in Edinburgh, contain more than one family. The tenth chapter treats of the ceremonies of coronation, holding of diets, and other solemnities. Eric Knutson was the first king, and was crowned in 1210.

The three chapters of the second part relate to the history of the castle, to the fortifications of the city, and the attacks to which it has been exposed, particularly at the time of the union.

The second volume, which contains an account of the suburbs, is divided into three parts. The first treats of the neighbouring islands. One of these is Ritterholm. In repairing a Franciscan church, the following singular inscription was discovered:—'Sex fuerunt eruntque causæ malorum in Sueciâ: 1. Proprium commodum; 2. Latens odium; 3. Contemptus legum; 4. Negligentia communis boni; 5. Favor improvidus in exteros; 6. Pertinax invidia in suos.'

The last two parts of this volume contain the history of the northern suburbs. We remark, in these, the monument erected to the memory of the abbé Micheliessi, the friend of Frederic the Great, by the counts Hoepken and Scheffer; a marble monument to the memory of a French actress, the inscription on which concludes with these remarkable words:—'Care viator, ut actâ vitæ tuæ fabulâ, felix decedas;' and the opera-house built by Gustavus III.

A subsequent volume is promised, which will contain the rest of the topography of Stokholm, the history of the government of this city, of its commerce, industry, &c. Should it offer any thing peculiarly interesting, we shall certainly return to it.

DENMARK.

K. A. Schonsboe Betrachbungen über das Gewæchsreich in Morokko gesammelt. Observations on the Vegetable Kingdom, collected in a Journey through the Empire of Morocco. in the Years 1791, 1792, *and* 1793. *By K. A. Schonsboe. Vol. I. 8vo. With two Plates.* Copenhagen.—These Observations were originally written in the Danish language, and appeared in the collection of Memoirs of the Physical Class of the Royal Society of Copenhagen, published by M. Rafn. They are translated into the German by M. Markussen; and from this our account must be taken, as the original is not at present in our hands. The Observations, when complete, will form a Morocco Flora. The plants are characterised and described according to the Linnæan system, in Latin, and (in the present volume) in German. It extends only to the octandria, except a few plants added in a supplement.

Digitized by Google

We find, first, a description of the country. Tunis and Algiers, however, have been described by Shaw, Poiret, Vahl, and Desfontaines. Morocco has not yet been examined by a botanist. Its climate is temperate, and its soil fertile. The most comfortable season of the year is the rainy. Excellent fruits are produced by cultivation, except apples, pears, and cherries, which do not succeed. Tobacco and hemp will grow with luxuriance; but the cultivation is in general neglected. The forests are composed of trees of a moderate height only, and sometimes are only thickets of shrubs. The large forests on the northern coasts consist of different species of oaks and firs: on the south are date-trees.

Among the indigenous plants, some have not been described; and of these we shall mention a few. 1. Salvia interrupta, (plate 1st.) festuca alopecurus, bromus longifolius, distinguished from the bromus ramosus of Wildenow only by its long leaves; 2. Arundo donax, employed in making pens; 3. Plantago stricta; 4. Echium micranthum; 5. Anagallis collina; 6. Trachelium angustifolium; 7. Lonicera canescens; 8. Ziziphus lotus, the fruit of which is said, by the author, to be the true lotus of the ancients, from which they derived the name of lotophagi; 9. Eleodendron argan retz, a tree little known, whose fruit contains white kernels. These are dried, ground, and suffered to melt, in order to extract the oil of argan, used in cookery. The external shell is good food for camels and other cattle; 10. Illecebrum graphalodes; salsola verticillata; bupleurum canescens; œnanthe nodiflora; pimpinella villosa; rhus albidum; linum virgatum; leucoium trichophyllum; narcissus viridiflorus (plate 2.); 11. amaryllis exigua; 12. Scilla serotina, Mauritanica, Tingitana; 13. Juncus maritimus, differing from the juncus acutus by its less size and pointed capsules, equalling the calyx in length; 14. Lausonia inermis, a shrub known in Egypt, and cultivated here, to extract from its dried leaves, by means of acids, a fluid which dies the hands and feet of infants a reddish yellow.

Kongl Veteskcaps, &c. Memoirs of the Academy of Belles Lettres, History, and Antiquities. Vol. VI. 8vo. Copenhagen.—The number of the memoirs is not so great as in the former volume, nor are they so extensive; yet some of them are interesting and important. The first, by D. Meleander-hielm, treats of the advantages of the study of astronomy in historical inquiries. These advantages relate to the geographical position, which if ascertained, the author thinks that some supposed discoveries will be found not to be so. He conceives that the Ophir of Solomon was probably Peru, and that the Carthaginians were acquainted with America, which was the Atlantis of Plato. 2. A historical account of a convent of nuns near Aspenaes, by A. Schæneberg; a memoir of some importance in

Digitized by Google

the history of Sweden. 3. Some explanations to assist the geographical description of the north of Europe, in the History of Orasius, by professor Porthan of Abo. This work was attributed to Alfred; and Daines Barrington published at London, in 1783, an Anglo-Saxon translation of Orasius, accompanied with an English version, some observations of Mr. Forster, and a chart. Our author has given a Swedish translation of this work, with many historical and geographical remarks. 4. A discourse on poetry, by M. de Engestroem. 5. Extracts from the registers of the academy, in 1791, respecting the prizes then proposed. 6. Designs of some medals to be struck in honour of some celebrated personages in the time of Charles IX., by M. Kutstroem. 7. Discourse delivered by the secretary of state, Schroeder-hielm, on the anniversary of the Academy, 24th of July 1791. This relates to the ancient court of Sweden, its diversions, music, tournaments, ceremonies of reception, and the gymnastic exercises of the times. In 1455, the king gave a dinner, in which 1400 silver plates were served. Under Charles IX. the first theatres were established, and the performances commenced in 1611. Queen Christiana contributed much to the progress of sciences and belles lettres: at the age of 65, she composed at Rome the opera of Endymion. Diversions multiplied during the first year of the reign of Charles XII., and the reign of Gustavus II. was the most brilliant æra of the Swedish court. 8. Extracts from the registers of the Academy of the 27th of March 1792. 9. A critical memoir on the antiquity of the provincial laws of Sweden, by M. Burmann. 10. Carmen in victoriam Helsinburgensem, 1710, auctore J. Lundblad. This poem, in honour of general Steenbok, received the prize in 1792. 11. A design of an inscription for a monument of Linnæus, and of some medals in honour of celebrated persons of the reign of Charles XI. 12, and 13. Two discourses of M. Rosenstein; one delivered in 1792, on the presentation of the Academy to the king; and the other the 24th of July 1792, its anniversary. 14. Discourse on the progress of the belles lettres and arts among the Greeks, by Wilde. Our author examines the history of each, and shows that the belles lettres and fine arts have proceeded hand in hand. In Greece they were studied by persons of rank; in Rome, by slaves and freedmen; so that, on this account, the latter had no style of their own. In architecture they preferred solidity to ornament; they esteemed sculpture, but almost thought painting 'ars honestis non spectata manibus.' Lastly, M. Wilde defends the Goths and Aristotle from the imputation of having contributed to the decline of the fine arts. This was, he thinks, rather owing to the ignorance and despotism of the monks, who impeded their progress till the æra of pope Nicolas, and after the conquest of Constantinople, when the Greeks became again the instructors of the Romans. 15. The discourse of chancellor Engestroem, on his reception into the Academy, Au-

Digitized by Google

gust 28, 1793. We find in it some just remarks on the reform to which Gustavus Adolphus contributed so considerably. The volume concludes with three *éloges*, and some designs of medals and inscriptions.

The Scandinavian Museum. No. I. Vol. III. Copenhagen. —We notice the publication of this number for the information of the lovers of northern literature, and shall add the contents from the communication of our correspondents, though the number have not reached us. It contains an 'Ode to Reason,' and two 'lyric romances,' worthy of the muse of Baggesen; a philosophical discourse 'on the utility of the study of the rights of Nature,' by professor Schlegel, author of 'European Statistics;' and 'Geognostic letters on the mountains of Königsberg,' by Esmark, with some other pieces of inferior importance.

The history of this periodical publication is singular. The Swedes and Danes, though so near neighbours, and equally descendents of the ancient Scandinavians, coalesce as little as the Spaniards and Portuguese, the Athenians and Lacedæmonians, the French and Germans, or the Parisians and English. The number of literary characters in each capital is nearly equal; and neither can assume the superiority. Of late, the difference of political interests has increased the opposition; and the liberty of the press, lately established in Denmark, has caused no little jealousy in Stokholm, and a rigorous caution against the importation of Danish works. In spite however of these obstacles, some Danish authors formed a plan of uniting all the kingdoms of the north in a literary association. A journal was the first tie expected to unite the two nations; but this journal, the Nordia, soon failed of the supposed end, and only fortified the Swedes in their prejudice against Danish literature.

M. Hæst, the editor of the Nordia, was however soon employed in another attempt. Twelve literary men of each country united in publishing the Scandinavian Museum, and Hæst was the secretary; but literary cabal and political dissension soon checked the design; and the whole number of active members was reduced to about one half the original number of Danes. Two volumes were however the result of their combined labours. Indeed the plan was too vast, and embraced a range too extensive; so that to the learned it was not sufficiently interesting, and to the world in general not sufficiently attractive. If it had been divided into two works, it might have succeeded better. As it was, the bookseller (Seidelin) seems to have been the loser; and he declined the concern.

The Museum then appeared at an end, and M. Hæst published a Swedish Journal in 1799; but the first number of the third volume is now advertised—with what success, cannot yet be known.

Denk Würdigkeiten ans dem Leben des Kœniglich Dœnischen Staat Minister. Memoirs of the Life of the Danish Minister

Count de Bernstorff. By C. H. D. d'Eggers. 2 Vols. 8vo. With a Portrait of the Count. Copenhagen.—An abstract of the life of count Bernstorff was lately published by professor Nyrap; but the present work is more complete. It is in a great degree drawn from a manuscript which the minister put into the author's hands, and from the information of persons intimately connected with the count.

The first volume contains the life of the count, and a considerable part of his diplomatic career: the second, a great number of official papers respecting the connexion of Denmark with other foreign powers. We find, by these, that Bernstorff was the first author of the armed neutrality, in 1780; that he was often called to the administration, and as often forced to retire, by the intrigues of the court, till he was established in the office of secretary of foreign affairs in 1784, by the Prince Royal, when he assumed the government of Denmark, a post which he filled till his death in 1797. His country was indebted to him for many excellent institutions; among the rest, for the freedom of the peasantry, which he obtained by the protection and influence of the prince.

The author has introduced many important discussions, on the navigation of neutral vessels, on the effects of the liberty of the press, &c.; and in the notes adds the titles of the works which have appeared on the rights of neutral powers, on the armed neutrality, and the freedom of the peasantry. On these subjects we cannot here enlarge, but shall be glad to return to this interesting work, on its assuming an English dress.

SPAIN.

Icones et Descriptiones Plantarum. Figures and Descriptions of Plants. By Joseph Cavanilles. Vol. VI. Part I.—We have often noticed this work in its progress, and it is continued with a credit and splendor scarcely impaired. This part contains sixty figures and sixty-nine descriptions of plants, chiefly from New Holland. Among these we notice the Hakæa, Lambertia, Protea, and Banksia. The second part is in the press.

Seminario de Agricultura y Artes. Seminary of Agriculture and the Arts. 8vo. Madrid.—This journal, commenced under the auspices of the Prince of the Peace—a title, by the way, by no means new in the Spanish history—is designed for the purpose of collecting all the discoveries and inventions of foreign countries, concerning agriculture, the arts, and manufactures. In the eighth volume, now before us, we find a general view of the common system of manures, on the best method of irrigation, and the remedies publicly employed in Asturia against the infection of the plague.

Anales de Ciencias Naturales. Annals of Natural Sciences. Madrid.—The commerce of science and literature between

this country and Spain was never considerable; and the little which ever existed has been greatly interrupted by the late war. We find, at present, no little difficulty in renewing it. We must collect, therefore, what our correspondents transmit, without much discrimination. We may on this occasion remark that the new system of chemistry gradually gains ground; and that, among the translations, we observe many military works, particularly the campaigns of Bonaparte.

This journal is published monthly, and, with the assistance of foreign philosophers, is not unentertaining. From the contents of the last number, we shall select the titles of the more important articles. 1. Botanical observations, by M. Brussonet. 2. Several mineralogical letters, by M. A. de Humboldt, to the minister of Saxony, baron de Forell, and to Don Joseph Clavigo; with a plan of a mineralogical history of Spain and her colonies. 3. Astronomical observations made at Madrid, Cadiz, &c. 4. A memoir on the Spanish naturalists, and an advertisement of a botanical work on Hungary.

Suplemento, &c. A Supplement to the Quinologica, by D. Hipolito Ruiz, and Don los Pacon. 4to.—The memoir to which this is a supplement is sufficiently known. Its subject is the different kinds of bark found in Peru; and the supplement contains a description of two new species, with an answer to a criticism of Jussieu on the Prodromus to the Flora of Peru and Chili.

Fisica del Cuerpo Humano, &c.; The Philosophy of the Human Body; or, Physiological Elements, accommodated to every Class of Literary Men. By Don Joseph Coll. Published by Don Bernardo Voguer. Madrid.—This is a translation from a work with a similar title, by Dr. Blumenbach of Göttingen; and it appears to be sufficiently accurate.

Teatro nuevo Espanol. New Spanish Theatre. 3 *Vols.* 8vo. Madrid.—These volumes contain the best pieces of Molière and Destouches, with some of Kotzebue, who, by the way, has met with severe treatment from the Spanish critics. One of the most poignant satires is entitled the Muger Varonil, the Virago. It is principally directed against the sentimental comedies, the *comédies larmoyantes* of the French.

El Fingal y Temora. Fingal and Temora, in Verse. By Don Petro Montengon. 4to. Madrid.—Translations, as we have already observed, are common in Spain. Among these, we find the Recreations of a Sensible Man, by Arnaud; the Studies of Nature, by St. Pierre; Quintilian; and the second edition of Blair's Lectures. Of the present translation only the first volume has appeared, and its merit is not considerable. The same author has attempted a translation of Shakspeare also.

Digitized by Google

REVIEW

OF

MAPS AND CHARTS.

Italy, with the Addition of the Southern Parts of Germany, as far as Pettau in Stiria, Murlakia, Dalmatia, the adjacent Countries, and all the Illyric Islands. By L. S. de la Rochette. Four Sheets. 18*s.* Faden.

THIS title is introduced by the following advertisement:

"This map is not an enlarged copy, as it might be supposed, especially at the present period, of the map of Italy constructed in 1743 by the celebrated d'Anville, and already copied here in 1745. Since that time, astronomical observations having been multiplied every where, the number of trigonometric surveys has increased in the same proportion. The accumulation of so many geographical materials, at the head of which is to be placed the grand map of France, ascertaining invariably the western frontier of Italy, cannot be detailed, and still less analysed in a short advertisement. We ought to distinguish, however, the following publications; namely, The Map of the Ecclesiastical State, by the Jesuits Maire and Boscovich;—The Map as well as the Charts of the Kingdom of Naples, by Zannoni; Dalbe's Theatre of the War in Italy, published at Milan by order of Buonaparte, and including a great Portion of Germany, with the whole of Switzerland. To these must be added Cursay's Surveys of Corsica; The Map of Ombria, Etruria, Latium, Magna Græcia, et Sicilia Antiqua, composed for the education of the Dauphin by the unfortunate La Borde; The Map of Sicily known by the name of *Marshal de Schmettau*, compared with that which merited W. Delisle a letter of thanks from the king of Sardinia, then king of Sicily*, and regulated by the late observations of signor Piazzi at Palermo; several national maps and charts of the Sardinian and Venetian possessions; the chart of capt. Knight of the royal navy; and, lastly, a manuscript survey of Murlakia, Dalmatia, and the Illyric Islands, wherein are to be found many new and interesting particulars.

* When was this?

Digitized by Google

From these materials, and a multitude of others equally authentic, though less comprehensive, the present Map of Italy, with its additions, has been drawn on a scale near one-half larger than d'Anville's Map of Italy, which we shall always consider as a *chef-d'œuvre* of geographical knowledge and execution.—W. Faden."

We are given to understand that this map is constructed by M. de la Rochette, who executes the drawings for most of the maps and charts published by Mr. Faden, and which in general do great honour to his skill. In fact, M. de la Rochette may be regarded as the most learned draughtsman of maps in England. The construction of a map, though it may seem to the unskilful inspector a matter of great ease and routine, is nevertheless one of the most difficult exertions of human industry; and days will sometimes be employed in adjusting one position. Maps are generally laid down by men only versed in the mathematical or technical part, and it is rare that they understand any language except their own. Hence d'Anville became so great a phænomenon in geography, as he was not only an able constructor of maps, but a man of extensive learning and information. He also exercised great patience, and employed many years in constructing and improving his designs, so that they appeared before the public in as great a state of perfection as the materials would admit.

Yet, since the time of d'Anville, not only many new discoveries have taken place, but a more accurate study of geology, and the rapid progress of the other sciences, have introduced such improvements in recent maps as d'Anville could not even have foreseen; particularly the ranges of mountains, their collateral ridges, and their spurs or branches, have been developed with precision by numerous investigators; and even the tremendous confusion of the Alps has been delineated by Weiss with all the truth of nature.

Though M. de la Rochette possess eminent abilities as a constructor of maps, yet he aspires to but a small portion of that learning which distinguished d'Anville; nor do we remember any memoir or treatise published by him which might serve as a test of his literary information. In maps he is certainly well skilled; but an eminent constructor ought to be equally versed in solid literature, and in the progress of every science in any degree connected with his profession.

But as a d'Anville rarely appears, we have ever been more eager to praise the exertions of M. de la Rochette than to criticise his deficiencies. Hence we passed in silence some faults in his beautiful Map of Persia, and the erroneous information therein contained, that the emperor of China had visited Badakshan, certainly derived from some author wholly undeserving of credit.

Digitized by Google

The map now before us may be regarded as the best yet published of Italy; as, to the advantages of d'Anville's learning, are superadded a larger scale and great improvements from the authorities mentioned in the advertisement. After this just commendation, we may be permitted to remark a most glaring defect in the delineation of the mountains, which are laid down on the antiquated and inaccurate plan, now reprobated by every skilful geographer, as wholly remote from the natural forms—this map being sprinkled with a number of mole-hills in every direction, intended to represent the grand chains of the Alps and Pyrenees! This adherence to a method now justly exploded must either proceed from want of information in the progress of geology and the modern art of constructing maps, or from a prejudice in favour of the ancient manner—alike deserving of reprehension, as it tends to impede the progress of the science in this country. It is wholly impossible from this map either to judge of the direction of the main ridges, or to estimate their comparative heights. Upon comparing the Alps, as here laid down with those in the maps of Switzerland by Weiss or Mechel, the campaigns of Bonaparte by Dalbe, or even the south-eastern parts of France reduced from Cassini by Rochette himself, the vast superiority of the recent plan will be instantly perceived. Nor can the smallness of the scale be urged as an objection; for any engraver of common skill could easily reduce these maps to a small size; in which case the chief and leading ridges would alone appear, thus preserving those very parts which deserve to be prominent. It was doubtless far easier for the constructor to retain the antiquated mole-hills of d'Anville than to lay in the mountains in the just and scientific manner adopted by recent geographers; but the consequence of this want of knowledge or industry may easily be foreseen in the superior merit and success of any map that should add these advantages to others contained in the present publication.

We have neither time nor inclination to enter into a minute criticism on this production. A few mistakes might be pointed out in the spelling, as *Gemini* for *Gemmi*, *Difentis* for *Disentis*, *Macagnana* for *Macugnaga*, &c. &c. &c. The confused manner of laying in the mountains also impedes the facility of consultation. In Sicily, for instance, though generally reputed a plain and fertile country, it is difficult to trace the names of places, or even the courses of rivers; because, while it is ludicrously divided into its three famous Vales, it is so completely covered with strings of beads, in imitation of mountains, that, upon comparing it with the Alps in this very map, it will be found by far the more Alpine country of the two! This singularity becomes the more apparent on a collation with d'Anville's own Map of Italy, in which Sicily is laid down with far more truth and exactness than it here appears on a scale of double the size. This

Digitized by Google

striking instance may perhaps serve finally to explode the random caterpillars, or bead strings, formerly used to represent mountains, and which any constructor of maps was accustomed to introduce at his own pleasure, like the elephants and lions of ancient geography, while, in the Oriental style, he called on the mountains to cover his sins.

Lower Egypt and the adjacent Deserts, with a Part of Palestine; to which has been added the Nomenclature of the Roman Age. By L. S. de la Rochette. 7*s.* 6*d.* Faden. 1802.

THIS map will be found to vary considerably in many important respects, particularly the shape of the lakes at the mouth of the Nile, from the map of d'Anville. No doubt M. de la Rochette has not only used the map of Niebuhr, but also such materials as are supplied in the recent French memoirs. Yet this production would no doubt have received superior advantages if its appearance had been delayed till the drawings taken by the English officers could have been collected and compared. A late work of the French general Reynier, accompanied with a map, might also have been found useful. We are informed that the longitudes here assigned to Suez and Cairo are liable to objections, which will of course affect many of the other positions. The form of the lake of Edko or Etko, and the canal of Alexandria, seem also to be inaccurate; the latter, on an actual survey, having been found to pursue a very winding course. There also seem to be some errors in the French maps concerning the natron lakes, of which Mr. Browne as well as other travelers only discovered two.

We need not examine what M. de la Rochette terms the *nomenclature* of the *Roman age*, as on this subject it can hardly be expected that he should have added any thing to the discoveries of d'Anville and other able illustrators. This map, which is delineated with care and neatly engraved, embraces a part of Palestine extending beyond Acca, corruptly called Acre, in the north, and Jerusalem in the east, thus apparently intended to illustrate the marches of Bonaparte, as well as the British transactions in Egypt. But as we expect many new elucidations concerning Lower Egypt from the memoirs and surveys of several British officers, we shall delay till a future period a more ample investigation of the improvements that may be made in the geography of that interesting country.

Digitized by Google

A New Map of the Island of Trinidad; made by Order of His Excellency Sir Ralph Abercromby, K.B. Lieutenant-General and Commander in Chief of the British Forces in the West-Indies. By F. Mallet, Captain of the Surveying Engineers. Four Sheets. With a short Description and reduced Map. 1*l.* 7*s.* Faden. 1802.

THIS beautiful map has been published in consequence of the cession of that important island by Spain to Great-Britain. It is on a scale of more than half an inch to the English mile, and exhibits all the allotments of the plantations. The island is pervaded by three chains of mountains; one along the northern shore, one along the southern, and another in the middle. They all run from east to west.

The description begins with informing us that the extreme length of Trinidad from east to west is sixty British miles, and its breadth from north to south forty-five miles, containing two thousand four hundred square miles, superficial measure. But, on measuring the map by the scale there laid down, we find the extreme length from east to west to be not less than eighty-five British miles, and from north to south more than sixty. This mistake is wholly unaccountable, and does very little credit to the accuracy of the compiler of the description. In fact, it is idle to compute the length by the long southern promontory. The real length of Trinidad is from north to south about sixty British miles, according to the present map, while the breadth from west to east is about forty; or, including the slender promontories, and taking a medium, about fifty British miles.

This map is said to have been grounded on the Spanish maritime survey made by order of government in 1793; but the topography of the interior was executed by Mr. Mallet in 1797, when the British forces took possession of the island. It is added that it not only contains all the plats of land granted by Spain, but those which remain to be disposed of, divided into squares. It seems not a little remarkable that the proprietors, as appears from the list of names, are mostly French. The monstrous fish mentioned in p. 5 is the hammer-headed shark. The acquisition of this noble island may no doubt lead to great advantages in our West-India trade.

A Map of the United States of North-America, drawn from a Number of critical Researches. By Aaron Arrowsmith, Geographer. Four Sheets. 1*l.* 1*s.* Sold by the Author.

THIS interesting map, having been published in 1796, can only be here noticed for the improvements made in the edition before us, and which extend to 1802. These are chiefly in the

Digitized by Google

north-west division, in which the Lake Superior assumes a considerable difference of form, and the sources of the Mississippi vary considerably from their former appearance. North-America having particularly engaged our geographer's attention for several years, there can be little doubt that the present map, which is engraven with great clearness, will be found superior to any other which has appeared of the United States.

A Map of Turkey in Europe, drawn from a great Number of accurate Astronomical and Geographical Manuscripts and printed Documents. By Aaron Arrowsmith. Two Sheets. 10s. 6d. Sold by the Author. 1801.

IT is well known that the geography of European Turkey is singularly imperfect, as the ignorance and fanaticism of the Turks, not to mention their jealousy of their European neighbours, have prevented any accurate survey. Of the provinces on the north of the Danube delineations have been taken with some exactness by officers in the Russian and Austrian service; and of many parts of Greece actual surveys were made by the count de Choiseul: but for the other extensive provinces, particularly Albania and those in the west, the materials are extremely defective. From the routes of various travelers, and other authentic sources, Mr. Arrowsmith has however been enabled to draw up a map, which, though it cannot be regarded as in any degree complete, is nevertheless superior in many respects to any general map of European Turkey. The mountains are, with few exceptions, laid in chorographically; and the engraving is very clear and neat. But we must regret that the sea is marked by a mere outline—a circumstance which gives an unfinished appearance. The remedy in such a case would be to tinge the sea with verdigris; but as maps, like books, are intended for distant posterity, it is probable that no tinge would stand a course of years; and it seems desirable that a map should be perfect in itself, without requiring any adventitious aid, which may often be administered by unskilful hands.

The rivers in Moldavia and Walachia are laid down with great minuteness; but the other parts of these provinces do not seem to be equally finished, as there is not the shadow of a hill, or any elevated ground; and even the Carpathian mountains are delineated in a faint and obscure manner. But the great chain of Hæmus, and the branch called Rhodope, are well expressed, and throw light on some doubtful parts of ancient geography. In the north-west there is an omission of a considerable part of Bosnia, together with the whole of Croatia, and a fragment of Herzgovina or the duchy of St. Saba. Yet it is

Digitized by Google

probable that in a very short period of time the present map may be more complete than at present.

As this map is chiefly interesting with regard to ancient history, we wish that the ingenious author had accompanied it with a short memoir, pointing out the sources of his information. If a partition of Turkey be in agitation, as is averred—and is indeed to be wished for the sake of humanity, lest those beautiful regions should become the prey of ignorant and cruel bashaws, whose petty wars would spread universal destruction and depopulation—the marches of foreign armies will soon illustrate the geography of this country. If not, it would be desirable that enlightened travelers should visit Albania, and other parts little known, instead of presenting us with a thousand voyages to Constantinople and Smyrna, where nothing remains to be discovered.

A New Map of Africa, including Arabia, the Mediterranean, and Part of the Coast of South-America; compiled from the Observations of the latest Travelers. Four Sheets. 10*s.* 6*d.* Wilkinson.

IN this map, that of d'Anville has been used with some care; and the latest discoveries are inserted, so as to constitute, upon the whole, a performance not indeed of the first merit, but tolerably decent and exact. The routes introduced are those of Bruce, Browne, and Park, with that of Messrs. Watt and Winterbottom to Teemboo, Vaillant from the Cape of Good Hope, and Dawes from Sierra Leone.

Even in large maps, we have sometimes been surprised at the want of taste and skill in the general square. This defect we had recently occasion to censure in a map of America; and, in the present instance, the absurd admission of a considerable part of Brazil greatly injures the appearance and effect of the whole—the continent of Africa being thrown to one side, in opposition to the rules of just design. Owing to this strange idea, several isles on the N. E. of Madagascar, &c. are omitted, though they strictly belong to the African division of the world. On the other hand, Arabia is laid down for the first time with some care from the description of Niebuhr, though far indeed from perfect accuracy—the constructor having neither talents nor experience sufficient to attain geographical eminence. On a general view of this map, it must also be observed that the mountains are delineated in the old perspective manner; an appearance foreign to nature when they are viewed from above, as must be the supposition in geographical delineation. The sandy deserts, however, are well represented: but, in staining a map, it seems unnecessary to mark the outlines with a deeper colour; nay, it is frequently injurious, as it hides the course of the rivers, the

Digitized by Google

marks of towns, and other objects of consequence. Two oblong squares are introduced—one of Sierra Leone, and the other of Lower Egypt; but the first is of little consequence, and might well be taken out, to make room for a new title; while the fragment of Brazil, and all beyond the longitude of the Cape Verd Islands, should be sacrificed.

This map, as we have already mentioned, having few pretensions to superior merit, we shall be contented with a brief review of some objects that excite remark, beginning with the states of Barbary, and proceeding towards the east and south. Morocco is laid down by d'Anville at too great a distance from the sea, as is evident from the journeys of Lempriere and Hoest; yet in this error he has been followed by major Rennell and the constructor of the present map. The chain and direction of the celebrated Mount Atlas are also wholly erroneous, though not equally so with d'Anville's delineation; the chief defect of whose maps is the vague and arbitrary representation of those great features of nature, which have had more influence on history, and even the characters of nations, than any other feature of natural geography, and ought of course to be traced with the greatest care. In general, this part of the map is copied from d'Anville, but is not so rich in names. In Tripoli there are several improvements; yet the geography of that part of northern Africa remains very imperfect; the country not having been pervaded by any scientific traveler. Egypt affords trivial room for observation; and in Nubia little has been added to the geography of d'Anville. Abyssinia has become a trifling theme; and Bernier's Map of the Sources of the Nile, 1666, contains the most essential features.

From Adel to Mozambic, the African coasts are obscure; the Portuguese, who have settlements in that quarter, being far behind the other European nations in every branch of science. The constructor of this map has rather too boldly laid down some chains of mountains in southern Africa: and his Ethiopia is an arbitrary denomination—the Ethiopia of the ancients being chiefly Abyssinia; while the modern extension of the appellation is alike vague and useless, as it conveys no determinate idea. His other denominations in this quarter are extended much beyond the bounds of real knowledge, and are rather calculated to fill up the map than to convey the just representation of great deficiencies.

In the copy before us, the bank of Aiguilhas, to the south of the Cape of Good Hope, is ludicrously coloured as a sandy desert; so that an ignorant inspector would be led to believe the bays are visited by camels, and not by ships. In the regions round the Cape, too much confidence has been placed in the authority of Vaillant, whose pretensions have been detected by Mr. Barrow. The course of the Orange River, in

Digitized by Google

particular, is wholly erroneous; and the Fish River (a name which indeed means nothing) may be a fabrication of the French adventurer. We believe the *Burning* Desert does not burn more than the others; but this map will certainly not burn from the concentrated irradiations of science. Congo, &c. are copied from d'Anville; yet there are many omissions; and the publisher has been sparing in the expense of letter engraving. There are also some mistakes which evince that the constructor is not versed in the original authorities; but it would be degrading to criticise the present map as a learned production; and we shall reserve such a review for some future capital map of Africa. Suffice it to remark, as a solitary instance, that the *learned* constructor has placed the country Gabon far to the north of the town of Majumba; while far to the north of Gabon is marked the country of Majombo. The plain fact is, that Majumba, or Manijumba, only means the King of Yomba—a small district round the town, here called Majumba.

The idea here expressed, that the kingdom of Dahomy is the Dauma of Leo, may deserve attention; but that the people of Lamlem are Jews seems a futile and unwarrantable notion. We need not pursue the well-known coast of Guinea, nor the rivers Gambia and Senegal; after which we arrive at the Great Desert, and the kingdoms of Barbary, whence our progress began.

In the central parts, the constructor has chiefly followed the opinions of major Rennell, or rather endeavoured to combine them with those of d'Anville; to whose delineation the major has been obliged to recur, after having expressed, in his map prefixed to the papers of the African Society, 1790, the Niger running from the east towards the west. The constructor of the present map is certainly little enabled to improve upon d'Anville, in countries where more recent discoveries have not been made: but, to display some appearance of learning, he has introduced some references to Ptolemy, which only serve to show his unacquaintance with ancient geography. He gravely supposes, for instance, that the Coloe Palus of that ancient geographer, which every school-boy knows is the lake of Dembea, and which a bare inspection of the maps in Ptolemy's Geography would suffice to identify, gives source to the river Kulla, fifteen degrees to the west; while the river Kulla itself must forsooth be called Coloe! A more puerile supposition, arising from a supposed resemblance of names, and a more gross and radical error, certainly never disgraced any geographical production. We have already expressed our opinion that the river Kulla of Browne is the only stream yet detected in that quarter which can at all correspond with the Gir of Ptolemy: but our constructor supposes the Gir to be the Bahr Misselad. This last seems indicated by Ptolemy in the river

Digitized by Google

which runs into his Nuba Palus, rightly delineated to the N.E. of the Gir, though the direction of the stream be westerly instead of northerly. So much for the only points in which the constructor seems to aspire to original learning, or indeed the only point; for that relative to the Gir may be faintly traced in d'Anville, who supposes that the Gir or Nile of the Negroes of Edrisi runs north into the lake of Kauga. But the course assigned by d'Anville, and the present constructor, is far too short for the great river Gir of Ptolemy, which seems obstinately rejected by modern geographers. In a recent German map we have seen the river Kulla of Browne delineated as entering the sea at Calabar. But Mr. Browne expresses his opinion that this river pursues a north-westerly course; and the bare inspection of his map might instantly have satisfied any scientific constructor that the river Kulla alone could correspond with the Gir of Ptolemy.

The chief merit of the present map is, that it assembles in one point of view all the recent discoveries concerning Africa; but the interior parts are laid down with a deceitful appearance of certainty; and the constructor is assuredly not sufficiently imbued with geographical knowledge for the difficult task which he has undertaken.

Smith's New English Atlas, being a complete Set of County Maps, &c. Sold by the Author.

WE have already mentioned this Atlas, and the terms on which it is to be published. There are six numbers now before us, containing eighteen maps, executed with tolerable care and neatness. But the waste of paper around each county seems sufficiently to proclaim that the best mode of executing an English Atlas would be to publish it in sheets, filled to the edges, which, with a proper index map, might be as easily consulted, as if divided into counties. This last plan has also many inconveniences well known to every practical geographer, without one advantage to balance them; and we would wish to see it finally dismissed from geography both at home and abroad, when an Atlas of a whole kingdom is intended. Particular surveys of distinct counties or provinces will still retain their claim of applause, when executed by able hands.

It may not be unnecessary to repeat, that the price of each number of Mr. Smith's Atlas, containing three maps, is *6s. 6d.* coloured, and *8s.* stained. It is expected to be completed this autumn.

Digitized by Google

Cary's New English Atlas, in a complete Set of County Maps, &c. No. I. Price 7s. outlined, and 8s. full coloured. Sold by the Author.

ON comparing this with Mr. Smith's, we sometimes find more care displayed in Mr. Cary's; as, for instance, in Charnwood Forest in Leicestershire. Mr. Cary's map of Bedfordshire is also far superior to Mr. Smith's in the delineation of the hills. In strict impartiality, therefore, we must prefer Mr. Cary's, however inclined we may be to favour Mr. Smith's spirit and industry. But an equal objection of waste of paper, and want of concatenation of parts, arises against both; and it is singular that neither should have alighted on the only legitimate plan of executing an Atlas of a kingdom.

Chart of the Baltic Straits; namely, the Great Belt, the Little Belt, and the Sound; including the South Part of the Kattegat, with the Western Part of the Baltic Sea, and all the Danish Isles; from the Surveys made by the Swedish Admiral Nordenanker, and Professor C. Lous, Director of Navigation at Copenhagen. 7s. 6d. Faden.

THE survey by admiral Nordenanker is universally esteemed the most exact which has yet appeared; and the present excellent chart is constructed with great care upon that survey. There can be no doubt that the shores, shoals, &c. &c. are laid down with the utmost accuracy; and it is singularly rich in the observation of soundings.

Chart of the Sleeve, or Gulf of Jutland, and of the North Part of the Kattegat; from the Surveys of the Swedish Admiral Nordenanker, and those made in Denmark and Norway by Professor Lous, Director of Navigation, and by the Royal Engineers. 7s. 6d. Faden.

THIS sheet is connected with the former, being the northern part of the same chart. It includes a supplement of the Sound of Christiana. The praise bestowed on the preceding may be extended to this.

Chart of the Coasts of South America, from Rio de la Plata to Cape Horn, and from Cape Horn to Valparayso, including the Isles of Juan Fernandes. Two Sheets. 15s. Faden.

TO the title of this chart is annexed the following information:

Digitized by Google

'The Spanish chart from which almost the whole of the present is a faithful copy has been geometrically surveyed by royal order in the years 1789, 90, 94, and 95; and presented to his Catholic majesty in 1798 by Don Juan de Langara, minister of marine. That excellent original extends only from the parallel of 36° 30′ of south latitude to Cape Horn, and goes not beyond the meridian of 76° 42′ west of Greenwich. A greater extension given to this copy in latitude and longitude has enabled us to insert the Isles of Juan Fernandes, which are of some interest to our navigators in the South Sea. We have added, besides, various plans of harbours and roads, appearances of land, tracks of ships, with their soundings, &c. and several other particulars. The improvements made on the south coast of Tierra del Fuego, and omitted by the Spanish hydrographer, might be equally mentioned, could their small importance make them remarkable in a series of discoveries which so eminently increase our geographical knowledge.'

The Spanish survey here mentioned must be that by Malespina, whose name, we understand, is, on account of some slight difference or jealousy, affectedly passed in silence by the Spanish council of marine. The present chart is extremely interesting, as it is founded on the first correct delineation of a great part of the shores of the new continent; and it varies considerably from the charts and maps before published. In the first sheet there are plans and views of Juan Fernandes, &c. with a small chart of the north part of Saint George's Bay, and others of Sea-Bear Bay and Port Saint Elena. The southern sheet also contains several views of land and plans of ports. A remarkable feature of the southern part is the large island of Campana, lat. 48°, and the Campana channel, which divides it from the main land of New Chili.

Cork Harbour, surveyed by John Knight, Esq. Rear-Admiral of the Blue. 5*s.* Steel.

THIS chart seems to be laid down with attention and accuracy. It is accompanied with short sailing directions, and with six views of the entrance of Cork harbour and adjacent lands.

Digitized by Google

A Chart of Ceuta and Tetuan Bays; in which are pointed out the most advantageous Places of Rendezvous for the Purposes of Victualling and Watering a Fleet. Surveyed, and particularly designed for the Use of the British Navy, by Captain John Knight, of the Royal Navy. 5s. Steel.

THIS chart is chiefly interesting, as it includes a considerable portion of the African shore. There is also inserted in the plate a plan of the Zaffarine Islands, which lie about fifty leagues E.S.E. from Gibraltar, and ten leagues S.E. by E. from Cape Treforças. We shall extract a part of the observations.

'Captain Knight having found the Spanish and other charts of this part of Africa to be extremely incorrect, and the advantages of Tetuan Bay to be little known, was induced, by these considerations, to survey it in 1799.

'The bays of Ceuta and Tetuan afford good shelter for a fleet with a west by northerly or southerly wind. In both are some spots of foul ground, more particularly in Ceuta Bay, in ten to seventeen fathoms depth. Off the mouth of the river Maravi, near to the south part of Tetuan Bay, and off the white tower on the hill, is a most admirable watering-place for a fleet;—and here, on application and some slight compliments being made to the governor, fresh provisions of every kind may be obtained reasonably and in abundance, with wood for fuel. In June 1799, the British fleet under the orders of vice-admiral lord Keith anchored here, and was plentifully and expeditiously supplied with water from the river. Here ships may ride in perfect safety, on a sandy bottom, in eighteen to twenty-two fathoms, with the wind from N.W. to S.S.E. at two miles distant from the shore; but within that depth the ground is in some places rocky.

'The mode of watering is by landing the casks, and rolling them over a sandy beach, about thirty yards wide, into the river. The native Moors and Arabs are civil.

'In Ceuta Bay is also a good anchorage, and ships lie there better sheltered; but, on account of its vicinity to the garrison of Ceuta, it it less frequented in time of war. When the easterly or Levant winds spring up, it becomes necessary to get under way. The approach of these winds is generally indicated by a current from that quarter, and by a clear atmosphere for some hours before the passing clouds begin to cap the hills. In these bays, as on the opposite coast towards Gibraltar, the flood sets to the westward, and on the days of full and change the tide begins to set to the eastward at one o'clock.'

Digitized by Google

A Survey of Bear Haven and Bantry Harbour, in Bantry Bay, by John Knight, Esq. Rear Admiral of the Blue. 5s. Steel.

BANTRY Bay is sufficiently noted in modern history; but as we believe the French are disgusted with fruitless attempts on Ireland, there can be little apprehension of their using this chart in any future invasion. It does honour to admiral Knight's abilities in this department, and may be useful in correcting the maps in this interesting part of Ireland. Bear Haven lies beyond Great-Bear Island, and the entrance is grandly marked by Hungry Hill, which, according to this Survey, is 2160 feet above the level of the sea.

A Chart of the East Coast of England from Lowestoff to Cromer, on which are laid down Yarmouth Roads, from a Survey by John Knight, Esq. Rear-Admiral of the Blue; and Hasborough Gat, from a Survey by Captain Joseph Huddart; and published by Order of the Trinity House. 4s. Steel.

THE public is greatly indebted to admiral Knight for this delineation of a shore proverbially dangerous. It is accompanied with several views of land, and some short observations by the intelligent author.

A Chart of the River Thames from London Bridge to Woolwich Warren; drawn from an accurate Trigonometrical Survey. 4s. Steel.

USEFUL, and neatly engraved. It is accompanied with the rules concerning ballasting in the port of London; by a perpetual table of high water at London Bridge, and by some observations, amongst which is the following:

'*Variation of the Compass.*—In the year 1580 the variation of the magnetic needle, as observed in Limehouse by William Borough, was 11° 5′ east: it has ever since been approaching westward, and is now 24° 30′ west, having varied its position thirty-five degrees and a half in about 220 years. Its motion appears to have been unequal. In the last fifty years it has increased seven degrees.'

This chart includes an exact representation of the new docks and canal in the north of the Isle of Dogs.

Digitized by Google

A Survey of the Virgin Islands, by George King, Land-Surveyor to those Islands. 4*s.* Steel.

OF this West-Indian groupe the two chief islands are Tortola and St. Thomas. There is reason to believe that this Survey, which is accompanied with views of land, is one of the most accurate which has yet appeared.

Chart of the White Sea from the North Cape to Archangel and Onega; deduced from the latest Surveys and Observations, by John Hamilton Moore. Two Sheets.* 7*s.* 6*d.* Sold by the Author.

THIS large chart includes several small surveys:—1. The river Dwina to Archangel; 2. The entrance of the river Puszlachta; 3. The Bight at Cape Sweetnose. It appears to be delineated with considerable accuracy; but we should have expected that the names even of the smallest islands would have been inserted in a chart on so large a scale. There are several minute views of the North Cape; but the vacant and useless paper is so extensive as to leave room for many other views of land which might have been of great consequence to the mariner.

A New Chart of the British Channel, enlarged and improved by John Hamilton Moore. Three Sheets. 7*s.* 6*d.* Sold by the Author.

THIS extensive chart reaches to more than twelve degrees west of Greenwich; thus including the south of Ireland. The eastern boundary extends beyond three degrees to the longitude of Cadzand. There are small compartments off Falmouth, the Downs, Dartmouth, Plymouth, Cork Harbour, and Portsmouth, with the Isle of Wight; there are also several views of headlands, &c. Major Rennell informs us that there is no good chart of the British Channel; and the present is probably one of the best extant. It is executed in a coarse bold style.

A New Map of Great-Britain, particularly shewing the Inland Navigation by the Canals and principal Rivers. Bowles *and* Carrington.

WE before mentioned a map of the same nature, published by Mr. Smith. The present map includes the whole course of the rivers; but the extent to which they are navigable is not in-

* When the number of sheets is not mentioned, the map or chart is in one sheet.

Digitized by Google

dicated with that precision which might have been expected. The mark of an anchor at the mouth, and of another on the precise spot to which they are navigable, is adopted in the French maps of this nature; and it would be a still further improvement if there were merely a stroke across the river, and the number of tons added.

SUPPLEMENT

TO THE

REVIEW OF MAPS;

CONTAINING

Extracts from the foreign Journals, concerning those which seemed interesting, but have not yet reached England, or, at least, have not fallen under our Observation *.

AT Vienna has appeared a new and corrected edition, in two large sheets, of Ecker's Northern and Southern Hemispheres, laid down stereographically for the horizon of Vienna. These maps were first published in 1794, and form a part of Schrable's General Atlas of Germany. From the account of them given in the Journal of Gaspari, it appears that they do not contain the discoveries of Vancouver or of La Pérouse. They seem to be in imitation of the two Planispheres, published at Berlin in 1783, by professor Bode; but the outline of the coasts is not delineated with equal exactness, and there are several errors of longitude and latitude. There is a volume of letter-press, which is itself far from being immaculate.

Sotzmann has published at Berlin a Map of the Northern Part of Upper Saxony, which contains the March of Brandenburg and the duchy of Pomerania, with the post-roads, &c.; being a kind of reduction of his provincial maps. But these maps are not trigonometrical; and it is surprising that the Germans, who pretend to such geographical hypercriticism, should not give the example of tolerable maps of their own country. Yet the barbarous division into antiquated circles, and the distinct interests of the petty sovereignties, must prove obstacles to such a design. There seems also to remain a radical want of

* It is almost unnecessary to mention, that, in this part of our Review, we must chiefly abide by the opinion of the foreign journalists.

Digitized by Google

taste in the Germans, who are more inclined to pled in the quarries of literature, than to build palaces. The very use of the old black letter in their publications is a sufficient proof of barbarism; and even the maps published under the eye of the journalists, from observations at the observatory near Gotha, —ironically, by some of our map-sellers, called Mr. Seeberg's works, from the German *Sternwarte Seeberg*, i. e. an observatory,— may indeed be accurate, but are such poor productions, and so destitute of taste and information, that no collector of maps would wish to possess one of them.

Baron Hermelin's Atlas of Sweden is nearly completed; the first division containing the northern provinces, the second division Finland, and the third Sweden Proper. It is accompanied with views of various parts of the country:

1. The fall of the Hadtjajock on the lake Saggal, in Lulea Lappmark;
2. View of the range of mountains at *Quickjock*, in Lulea Lappmark;
3. *Gilliware*, from the southern bank of the *Wassera Elf*, in Lulea Lappmark;
4. View of the mountain *Wigeln* over the lake Oresund, from Beckaas in Norway;
5. View of the mountain *Ruten* from the north-east end of the lake Malmagen;
6. View of the range of mountains between Herjeadalen and Norway, taken from Mount Funnesdal;
7. View of the forges and smelting-houses at *Ljusnedal*, in Herjeadalen;
8. View from Wermasvuori towards the lakes Jockijavoi and Umolanselka.
9. View of Stockholm.

The latter sheets are superior in neatness and accuracy to the first; but the journalists of Weimar exclaim as usual against the neglect of astronomical observations. We must remind them that the study of geography is very widely diffused; while not one in a thousand pays any attention to the astronomical part, after having learned the elements of geography. In reading books of history or travels, &c. maps are consulted with a view to the relative situations of places, and a general conventional accuracy is all that is expected. Few readers are so ignorant as not to know that a map or plain surface cannot represent any part of a sphere with complete mathematical precision; nor must it be forgotten that astronomical observations depend on the skill of the observers, and that many are found to be erroneous.

We agree however with the foreign journalists concerning

Digitized by Google

the advantage of computing the longitude from a fixed and general meridian; and it is to be wished that the French and English would abandon the computation from Paris and Greenwich, and return to that from Ferro, or some other more western spot, than which there could not be a more essential improvement in geography.

Of Von Gorog's maps of the Provinces of Hungary, twenty-two sheets were completed some time ago. They are divided according to counties, the meridian being taken from Ofen or Buda, and form the most complete Atlas of Hungary which has yet appeared.

M. Gussefeld has published a new map of the Hartz and circumjacent countries, for the use of travelers who visit that interesting part of Germany—the size of the map being about twenty-one inches by fifteen. The mountains of the Hartz are represented in three profiles; and the whole is well calculated to assist the researches of the traveler, and to exhibit the topography of that singular region.

*** In our next we hope to give ample accounts of two capital performances; Mr. Arrowsmith's New Map of North America; and Mr. Faden's County of Kent, from the plates of the Grand Trigonometrical Survey of England.

Digitized by Google

ALPHABETICAL INDEX

TO THE

AUTHORS' NAMES & TITLES OF BOOKS.

ABERCROMBY (sir Ralph), Lines on the death of, 352
——— Ode to the memory of, 353
Addresses to inhabitants of certain parishes in archdeaconry of Lincoln, 223
Adelmorn, the outlaw, 231
Adelphi, 239
Adultery, Sermon on the sin of, 106
Advice to minister of gospel, 104
Africa, Map of, 581
Agriculture (System followed during the two last years by the board of) further illustrated, 467
——— of Lincolnshire, General view of, 261.—Review of ditto, *ib.*
——— of Perthshire, General view of, 423.
Aikin (Lucy)'s poetry for children, 111
Alfonso, king of Castile, 355
Alfred, an epic poem, 361
Allwood's literary antiquities of Greece, 11, 131
Alonzo and Cora, 229
America (South), Chart of the coasts of, 585
American United states, Map of, 579
Anatomist's vade-mecum, 350
Andree's cases and observations on treatment of fistula in ano, &c. 466
Angling in the Trent, Observations on, 360
Annales de Chymie, 502
Annotations on the gospels, 220
Annual register (New) for 1800, 269
Anti-Jacobin reviewers—Imposture exposed, &c. 239
Antiquities (Literary) of Greece, 11, 131
Apology for the sabbath, 345
Archbishops and bishops of church of England, Letter to, 118
Ariel, or the invisible monitor, 356
Arrowsmith's map of American United states, 579
——— Turkey in Europe, 580
Arts (fine), Dissertation on progress of, 478
Atkinson's Rodolpho, 229
Atlas (new English), Cary's, 585
———, Smith's, 584
Aviary, Visits to the, 227

BALTIC straits, Chart of, 585
Bankers (Impolicy of returning) to parliament, 338
Bantry-harbour, Survey of, 588
Barrett's magus, 406
Batavian republic, Tour through, 296
Bath, Excursions from, 277
Bear-haven, Survey of, 588
Beauties of England and Wales, 397
——— of Wiltshire, 58
Beddoes's collection of testimonies respecting treatment of Venereal disease by nitrous acid, 464
Belinda, 235
Belsham's elements of the philosophy of the mind, 142
——— history of Great-Britain, 23
Berdmore's specimens of literary resemblance, 87
Bidlake's sermons, 434
Billiards, Instructions for playing, 477
Black's conjunction of Jupiter and Venus in Leo, 474
——— Free school, 230
Blagdon controversy.—Force of contrast, 120
Bliss's experiments on medicinal waters of Hampstead and Kilburn, 350
Blow (A) at the root of infidelity, 460
Boa constrictor, 338
Boileau's satire on man, Translation of 228
Bonaparte, Life of, 189
Booker's fast sermon, 463
Boscawen's poems, 451
Bowels (affection of the) frequent and fatal in E. Indies, Letter respecting, 465
Bowles on the conclusion of the war, 102
———'s supplement to Reflexions on state of society at close of 18th century, 102

Digitized by Google

Bread, a poem, 80
Britain, History of Great, 23
———, New map of, 589
Britton's Beauties of England and Wales, 397
——— Beauties of Wiltshire, 58
Brock's Importance of religion to military life, 107
Burder's village sermons, 454
Burns, Second essay on, 224
Butcher's moral tales, 352

CARLISLE (Earl of)'s tragedies and poems, 68
Cary's new English Atlas, 585
Castle without a spectre, 355
Cépède (La)'s natural history of fishes, 532
Ceuta and Tetuan bays, Chart of, 587
Chains of the heart, 232
Chamberlain's Blow at the root of infidelity, 460
Chamberlin's Ocean, 354
Channel (British), New chart of the, 589
Charge to clergy of diocese of Durham, 340
Charlton (Mary)'s Pirate of Naples, 476
Chemistry, Annals of, 502
———, Manual of theoretic and practical, 543
———, Synoptic tables of, 77
Children, Treatise on physical education of, 157
Chouan army, Hint respecting, 103
Christianity, Internal and presumptive evidences of, 455
Church of England vindicated from misrepresentation, 457
———, Letter to archbishops and bishops of, 118
Circulation of blood, Experiments upon, 466
Clapham's sermon for benefit of sunday schools, 221
Clarke's animadversions on Dickson's translation of Carnot on the infinitesimal calculus, 359
Cobbett's letters on the peace, 333, 384
Collectanea maritima, 347
Colors of thin transparent bodies, Observations concerning, 443
Comeiras's edition of La Croix's Geography, 541
Common prayer, Reeves's edition of the, 56
Commons (house of), Review of principles on which clergy are excluded from, 240
Conjunction of Jupiter and Venus in Leo, 474
Contrast, Force of, 120
Cork harbour, Survey of, 586
Corn—Proposals for keeping its price at what it ought to bear, 104
Corry's Detector of quackery, 120
Cowper (Wm.)'s sketch of the character, &c. of rev. John Cowper, 258
Cow-pox, Treatise on the, 331
Coxe's historical tour in Monmouthshire, 302
Crabb's Order and method of instructing children, 227
Croft's sermon on the peace, 107
——— on thanksgiving for favorable harvest, 107
Crosbie (Sir E. W.), Narrative of the apprehension, trial, and execution of, 356
Cullyer's gentleman and farmer's assistant, 467

DALLAS's translation of Ordinaire's natural history of volcanoes, 381
Dancer's medical assistant, 226
Dawn of peace, 470
Dead, Letters of the, 337
Defence of public education, 217
Delaval, 476
Denmark, Literature of, 569
Detector of quackery, 120
Dictionary, Thespian, 476
Distresses of the times, Reflexions occasioned by, 106
Donovan's natural history of the insects of China, 44
Dorothea, 238
Drainage of fens in Lincolnshire, Letters on, 349
DRAMATIC.
Adelmorn, 231
Alfonso, 355
Chains of the heart, 232
Earl of Carlisle's tragedies, 68
Elisha, 116
Holiday time, 355
Maid of Lochlin, 164
Mutius Scævola, 115
Dropsy of membranes of brain, Treatise on, 463
Dundas (Mr.)'s letter to chairman, &c. of E. India company, Observations on, 478
Durham (Bishop of)'s charge to clergy, 340

EARLE's Welshman, 116
Early lessons, 351
Eden (Sir F. M.)'s letters on the peace, 335
Edgeworth (Maria)'s Belinda, 235
——— ——— Early lessons, 351
——— ——— Three stories for young children, 352
Education, Letters on, 181
——— Hints for plan of national, 226

Digitized by Google

Education, Strictures on modern system of, 227
——— (physical) of children, Treatise on, 157
——— (public), Defence of, 217
Edward, a tale, 228
Egypt (lower), Map of, 578
Elements of the philosophy of the mind, 142
Elisha, or the woman of Shunem, 116
Elocution, Elements of, 468
Encyclopædia Britannica, 371
———, Supplement to, 371
——— of wit, 477
England and Wales, Beauties of, 397
England, Chart of East coast of, 588
———, New map of, 589
Estlin's apology for the sabbath, 345
Evans's Name of the Lord great among the gentiles, 222
Excursions from Bath, 277
Extracts, moral and sacred, 461

FALCONER on the plague, 350
Farmers, Case of the, 359
Faulkner's sermons, 447
Fell's tour through Batavian republic, 296
Fellowes's Morality united with policy, 479
Fens in Lincolnshire, Letter on the drainage of, 349
Festivals of church of England, Instructions to young people respecting, 224
Fishes, Natural history of, 532
Fistula in ano, &c. Cases and observations on treatment of, 466
Follies of fashion, 475
Force of contrast, 120
FOREIGN LITERATURE.
Denmark, 569
France, 545
Germany, 550
Holland, 556
Hungary, 555
Italy, 558
Russia, 563
Spain, 573
Sweden, 566
Switzerland, 556
Transylvania, 555
Fouchécour (Countess of)'s Saisons, 110
Fourcroy's synoptic tables of chemistry, 77
France, Literature of, 545
———, Reflexions on old and new government of, 479
Frank, 351
Free school, a poem, 230
Friendship, Mysterious, 117
Fullagar on religion, 108
Fuseli's lectures on painting, 410

GARDINER's sermon, 463
Genius of France, 471
Gentleman and farmer's assistant, 467
Geography, Modern and universal, 541
Gerhard's sacred meditations, 354
Germany, Literature of, 550
Gleig's supplement to encyclopædia Britannica, 370
Gilg-gamena Angel-deod, 323
Gœtling's manual of Chemistry, 543
Gospels, Annotations on the four, 220
Gout and rheumatism, Nature, &c. of, 109
Grace (Act of), &c. explained, 348
Grammar, Introduction to English and Italian, 110
———, Rhetorical, 468
Gray's Durham visitation sermon, 106
Greece, Literary antiquities of, 11, 131
Guide to Madeira, 360

HALL's translation of Spallanzani's experiments on circulation of blood, 466
Hamilton (Elizabeth)'s letters on education, 181
Hampstead and Kilburn, Experiments on medicinal waters of, 350
Hard's Imposture exposed, 239
Harry and Lucy, 351
Hauy's Mineralogy, 481
Helen of Glenroas, 356
Helme (Elizabeth)'s St. Margaret's cave, 237
Helvetia, History of, 48
Hermitage, The little, 111
Hint of Chouan army's having been a Jacobin snare, 103
Hints for plan of general national education, 226
Hoare's Chains of the heart, 232
Holiday time, 355
Holland, Literature of, 556
Hooper's Anatomist's vade-mecum, 350
Hosea, New translation of, 1
Howe's millennium, 456
Hoyer's history of the art of war, 542
Hull's Elisha, 116
Hungary, Literature of, 555
Hunter (Mrs.)'s Letitia, 355
Hurdis on psalm and prophecy, 285

ILLUMINATIONS, Hints for increasing the splendor of, 338
Impolicy of returning bankers to parliament, 338
Imposture exposed, 239
Infinitesimal calculus, Animadversions on Dickson's translation of Carnot on the, 359
Insects of China, Epitome of the natural history of, 44

Digitized by Google

INDEX

Insecto-theology, 239
Institute (national), Memoirs of the, 510
Instructions for young people, respecting festivals of church of England, 224
Intelligencer, Celestial, 406
Ireland's Mutius Scævola, 115
Irides, or corona, of sun, moon, &c. Account of, 443
Irrigation, National, 348
Italian Grammar, Ravizzotti's, 110
Italy, Literature of, 558
—— Map of, 575

JACKSON's fast sermon, 223
Jamaica practice of physic, 226
Jamieson's mineralogy of Scottish isles, 191
Jaufret's Visits to the ménagerie, 111
John (St.)'s gospel and epistles, Notes on, 411
Johnston on the way to restore and perpetuate peace, 197
Jutland, Chart of the gulf of, 585
Juvenile philosophy, 227

KEMBLE and Cooke, Remarks on character of Richard III., as played by, 117—Critical review of the Remarks, 118
Kentish on burns, 224
King's survey of the Virgin islands, 589
Knight's chart of Ceuta and Tetuan bays, 587
—— chart of East coast of England, 588
—— survey of Bearhaven and Bantry harbour, 588
—— survey of Cork harbour, 586

LANGFORD's anniversary sermon of royal humane society, 462
Lathom's Holiday time, 355
Leasehold property, Inquiries into nature of, 547
Legs, Observations on cure of wounds and ulcers on, 110
Lesser's insecto-theology, 239
Letitia, 355
Letter to archbishops and bishops of church of England, 118
Letters of the dead, 337
Lewis's Adelmorn, 231
—— Alfonso, 355
—— Tales of Wonder, 111
—— XVI., Memoirs of the reign of, 241
Life of ******, esq. 119
Light, Observations concerning inflexions of, 437
Lincoln, Addresses to certain parishes in archdeaconry of, 423.
Lincoln, General view of agriculture of county of, 261—Review of ditto, 4.
Little's poetical works, 200
Lous's chart of Baltic straits, 585
—— of gulf of Jutland, 585
Lundie's fast sermon, 463
Luscombe on the sin of adultery, 106

MACARONICORUM carminum delectus, 354
Macneill's poetical works, 289
Madeira, Guide to, 360
Magus, The, 406
Maid of Lochlin, 164
Mair's assise sermon, 224
Mallet's map of Trinidad, 579
Manual of reflexions on facts of revelation, 223
MAPS and CHARTS.
Africa, 581
Coasts of South America, 585
American United states, 579
Baltic straits, 585
Great Britain, 589
British Channel, 589
Ceuta and Tetuan bays, 587
Cork harbour, 586
Lower Egypt, 578
East coast of England, 588
English Atlas, Cary's, 585
——, Smith's, 584
Italy, 575
Gulf of Jutland, 585
Thames, from London bridge to Woolwich warren, 588
Trinidad, 579
Turkey in Europe, 580
Virgin Islands, 589
White Sea, 585
Extracts from foreign journals respecting maps and charts, 590
Margaret (St.)'s cave, 237
Marshall's sermons, 178
Medals and gems bearing inscriptions in ancient Persic character, Observations on, 295
Medical assistant, 226
Meditations, Sacred, 354
Melancholy, 360
Memoirs of National Institute of France, 510
—— (Secret) concerning Russia, 489
Ménagerie, Visits to the, 111
Mercier's Neology, 337
Methodists, a poem, 474
Millennium, The, 456
Milner's Reflexions occasioned by the distresses of the times, 106
Milton's poems, Todd's edition of, 254, 368
Mineralogy of Scottish isles, 121
——, Treatise on, 461

Digitized by Google

Minister of gospel, Advice to, 104
Monitor, Invisible, 356
Monmouthshire, Historical tour in, 502
Montucci's Title-page reviewed, 206
Moore's chart of the British Channel, 589
——— of the White sea, 589
Morality united with policy, 479
Morrice's hints for plan of general national education, 226
——— science of teaching, 478
Mounier on the influence attributed to philosophers, &c. on the revolution of France, 150
Mountaineers (Little) of Auvergne, 238
Musul, Adventures of, 229
Mutius Scævola, 115
Mysterious friendship, 117

NAPLETON's Advice to minister of gospel, 104
Nares's Thanksgiving for plenty, 222
Naylor's history of Helvetia, 48
Neology, French, 537
Netterville, History of, 356
Nicholson's translation of Fourcroy's synoptic tables of chemistry, 77
Nitrous acid, Collection of testimonies respecting treatment of Venereal disease by, 464
Noble's Dawn of peace, 470
Notes on the gospel and epistles of St. John, 411
NOVELS, ROMANCES, &c.
Adventures of Musul, 228
Ariel, 356
Belinda, 235
Delaval, 476
Dorothea, 238
Edward, 228
Follies of fashion, 475
Helen of Glenross, 356
History of Netteville, 356
Letitia, 355
Little Mountaineers of Auvergne, 238
Mysterious friendship, 117
Old Nick, 449
Pirate of Naples, 476
St. Margaret's cave, 237
Something new, 475
Swedish mysteries, 476
Village maid, 227
Welshman, 116

OCEAN, a poem, 354
Old Nick, 449
Order and method of instructing children, 227
Ordinaire's natural history of volcanoes, 381
Orton's letters to Stedman, 193
Ouseley on Persic medals, 95

PAINTING, Lectures on, 416
Paper-money (Profusion of), &c. principal causes of sufferings of people, 103
Papillon's translation of Gerhard's Sacred meditations, 354
Peace (Causes and consequences of the) considered, 101
——, Cobbett's Letters on the, 333, 334
——, Considerations concerning, 336
——, Dawn of, 470
——, Sir F. M. Eden's letters on the, 335
——, On the way to restore and perpetuate, 197
——, Preliminary articles of, 102
——, Reflexions on the preliminaries of, 198
——, Sermon upon the, 197
——, Thoughts on preliminary articles of, 102
——, Three words to Mr. Pitt on war and, 336
——, Mr. Windham's speech on address approving preliminaries of, 334
Pears's cases of phthisis pulmonalis, 349
Pennant's Tour from Downing to Alston Moor, 179
Perth, General view of agriculture in county of, 429
Philosophers, &c. (Influence attributed to) on the revolution of France, 150
Philosophical transactions for 1801, 33, 312
Philosophy, Juvenile, 227
——— of the mind, Elements of the, 143
Phlogiston (Doctrine of) established, 466
Phthisis pulmonalis, Cases of, 349
Physician's portable library, 108
Pilkington (Mrs.)'s Edward, 228
Pirate of Naples, 476
Plague, Essay on, 350
Plumptre (Anne)'s Something new, 475
Plutarch, Juvenile, 111
POETRY.
Alfonso, king of Castile, 355
Alfred, 361
Alonzo and Cora, 229
Boileau's satire on man, 228
Bowen's poems, 431
Bread, 80
Carminum macaronicorum delectus, 354
Part of Carlisle's poems, 68
Conjunction of Jupiter and Venus in Leo, 474
Dawn of peace, 470
Free school, 230
Genius of France, 471
Lines on the death of sir R. Abercromby, 352
Little's poems, 200
Macneill's poems, 229

Digitized by Google

Maid of Lochlin, &c. 164
Methodist, 474
More wonders, 469
Ocean, 354
Ode to the memory of sir R. Abercromby, 353
Poems by translator from Petrarch, &c. 478
Poetry for children, 114
Rodolpho, 229
Sacred meditations, 354
Selim and Zaida, 445
Sorrows of love, 354
Tales of the devil, 114
—— of terror, 112
—— of wonder, 114
Polemic life of Voltaire, 527
Pratt's Poem of Bread, 80
Prayer (common), Reeves's edition of the book of, 56
Priestley's Doctrine of phlogiston established, 466
Psalm and prophecy, Nature and occasion of, 285
Pye's Alfred, 361

QUACKERY, Detector of, 120

RAVIZZOTTI's Italian grammar, 110
—— viridarium Latinum, 351
Reeves's edition of the book of common prayer, 56
Register (New Annual) for 1800, 269
Religion, Essay on, 108
—— (Importance of) to military life, 107
—— (modern), Thoughts upon, 460
Resemblance (literary), Specimens of, 87
Retrospect of foreign literature, 545
Revelation, Manual of reflexions on facts of, 223
Review of principles on which clergy are excluded from house of commons, 240
—— of Young's Agricultural survey of Lincolnshire, 261
Reviewers to correspondents, 120, 240, 360
Revolution of France, Influence attributed to philosophers, &c. on the, 150
Rhetorical grammar, 468
Richard III. (Remarks on character of) as played by Cooke and Kemble, 117.
—Critical review of, 118
Richardson's Maid of Lochlin, 164
Ring on the cow-pox, 331
Robertson's view of agriculture in Perthshire, 423
Robinson's address to inhabitants of united kingdom, on termination of war with France, 462
Robinson's collectanea maritima, 347
Rochester (Bishop of)'s translation of Hosea, 1
Rochette (La)'s map of Italy, 573
—— of Lower Egypt, 573
Rodolpho, 229
Rosamond, 351
Rowley on the new-discovered dropsy of the membranes of the brain, 463
Russia, Literature of, 563
——, Secret memoirs concerning, 489

SABBATH, Apology for the, 345
——, Thoughts on observance of, 224
Saisons, Les, 110
Saumarez (rear-admiral), Proceedings of squadron under command of, 239
Scot (Elizabeth)'s Alonzo and Cora, 229
Scott on the progress of the fine arts, 478
——'s sermon before mission-society, 346
Secret memoirs concerning Russia, 489
Stone on the drainage of Lincolnshire fens, 349
Scottish isles, Outline of mineralogy of, 121
Self-sufficiency incompatible with Christianity, 107
Selim and Zaida, 445
SERMON by Booker, 463
Brock, 107
Chamberlain, 460
Clapham, 221
Croft, 107
Evans, 222
Gardiner, 463
Gray, 106
Jackson, 223
Langford, 462
Lundie, 463
Luscombe, 106
Mair, 224
Milner, 106
Napleton, 105
Nares, 222
Scott, 346
Twisleton, 107
SERMONS by Bidlake, 434
Burder, 454
Faulkner, 447
Howe, 456
Marshall, 178
Waters, 421
Shade (Sarah), Narrative of the life of, 357
Shepherd's notes on gospel and epistles of St. John, 411
Simpson's Internal and presumptive evidences of Christianity, 465

Digitized by Google

Smith's new English Atlas, 584
——— Physician's portable library, 108
Society (state of) at close of 18th century, Supplement to Reflexions on, 102
Somerville (Elizabeth)'s village maid, 227
——— (Lord)'s illustration of system followed during the two last years by the board of agriculture, 467
Something new, 475
Sorrows of love, 554
Soulavie's memoirs of Lewis XVI. 241
Sound and Baltic considered, 338
Spain, Literature of, 573
Spallanzani's experiments on circulation of blood, 466
Specimens of literary resemblance, 87
Sports and pastimes of people of England, 323
Stone's review of Young's agricultural survey of Lincolnshire, 261
Stonhouse's letters to Stedman, 193
Stories (Three) for little children, 352
Strutt's glig-gamena Angel-deod, 323
Struve on the physical education of children, 157
Surgery, Practical, 109
Suworow (General)'s life and campaigns, 7
Sweden, Literature of, 56
Swedish mysteries, 56
Switzerland, Literature of, 56

TALES of the devil, 14
——— of terror, 12
——— of wonder, 11
———, Moral, 52
Tatham on the culture [illegible]rce of tobacco, 118.
———'s national irrigation, 348
Teaching, Science of, 478
Tetuan bay, Chart of, 587
Thames (Chart of the) from London bridge to Woolwich warren, 588
Thanksgiving for plenty, and warning against avarice, 222
Thespian dictionary, 476
Thomson's ode to the memory of sir Ralph Abercromby, 353
Title-page reviewed, 206
Tobacco, Essay on culture and commerce of, 118
Todd's edition of Milton's poems, 234, 388
Tour from Downing to Alston Moor, 170
——— through Batavian republic, 296
——— (Historical) in Monmouthshire, 302
Transactions (Philosophical) of royal society for 1801, 33, 312
Transylvania, Literature of, 535
Trent, Observations on angling in the, 360
Trinidad, Map of, 579
Turkey in Europe, Map of, 580
Twisleton's Self-sufficiency incompatible with Christianity, 107

VANBRUGH on the observance of the sabbath, 224
Venereal disease (Collection of testimonies respecting treatment of) by nitrous acid, 464
Village maid, 227
——— sermons, 454
Vincent's defence of public education, 217
Virgin Islands, Survey of the, 589
Viridarium Latinum, 350
Vision, The consular, 471
Visits to the aviary, 227
——— to the ménagerie, 111
Volcanoes, Natural history of, 381
Voltaire, Polemic life of, 527

WALKER's Elements of elocution, 468
——— rhetorical grammar, 468
——— translation of Mounier's "Influence attributed to philosophers, &c. on revolution of France," 150
War, History of the art of, 542
———, Reflexions on the conclusion of the, 102
——— with France, Address to the inhabitants of united kingdom on termination of, 462
Warner's excursions from Bath, 277
Watering meadows, Various methods of, 348
Water-proof cloths, Analytic hints respecting, 358
Waters (medicinal) of Hampstead and Kilburn, Experiments on, 350
Waters's sermons, 421
Welshman, The, 116
Whately on the cure of wounds and ulcers on the legs, 110
White sea, Chart of the, 589
White's practical surgery, 109
Whyte on gout and rheumatism, 109
Willich's translation of Struve on the physical education of children, 157
Wiltshire, Beauties of, 58
Windham (Mr.)'s speech on address approving preliminaries of peace, 334
Wonders, More, 469
Words (Three) to Mr. Pitt on war and peace, 336
Wounds and ulcers on the legs, Observations on the cure of, 110

YONGE's extracts, moral and sacred, 461
Young's view of the agriculture of Lincolnshire, 261—Review of ditto, *ib.*

END OF THE THIRTY-FOURTH VOLUME.

Digitized by Google

ERRATA.

Page 115, line 45, for *brother* read *father*.
237, — 47, for *he was continually* read *she was*, &c.
476, — 7, for *great* read *greater*.

Printed by and for S. HAMILTON,
Falcon-Court, Fleet-Street.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

THE NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY
REFERENCE DEPARTMENT

This book is under no circumstances to be taken from the Building

OCT 8 1915

Form 410